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The American-Scandinavian Review

VOL. XXXIX

MARCH, 1951

NUMBER 1

Published by THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION

Henry Goddard Leach, Editor; Erik J. Friis, Associate Editor

The REVIEW is published quarterly, in December, March, June, and September. Price \$3.00. Single copies \$1.00. Associates of the Foundation receive the REVIEW upon payment of membership dues.

Publication office, 41 William St., Princeton, N.J. Editorial and executive offices, 127 East 73rd St., New York. All communications for publication should be addressed to the editorial office.

Entered as second class matter at the post office of Princeton, N.J., under the act of March 3, 1879. Copyright 1950 by The American-Scandinavian Foundation in the United States. Printed at the Princeton University Press.

Order the REVIEW and book publications in:

Denmark: Einar Munksgaard, Nørregade 6, Copenhagen K.

Iceland: Islensk-Ameriska Félagid, Sambandshusinu, Reykjavik.

Norway: Cammermeyers Boghandel, Karl Johansgate 41, Oslo.

Sweden: Wennergren-Williams A.B., Box 657, Stockholm I.

British Dominions: Oxford University Press, Amen House, Warwick Square, London, E.C.

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STEWARDESS INGIGERDUR KARLSDÓTTIR
Heroine of the Crash on the Icelandic Icecap

THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW

VOL. XXXIX

MARCH, 1951

NUMBER 1

Rescue from the Icecap

By Two of the Rescue Party

Photographs by Edvard Sigurgeirsson
Text by Haukur Snorrason

ON SEPTEMBER 14, 1950 the Icelandic skymaster "Geysir" was en route from Luxemburg to New York via Reykjavík with a cargo of watches, cameras, clocks, fabrics, furs, and eighteen dogs in cages when it disappeared over Iceland. September 18 the Icelandic patrol ship "Aegir" intercepted an SOS that said the "Geysir" was somewhere on a glacier and all six of the crew were still alive. That afternoon a Catalina flying boat located the "Geysir" upside down, 1800 meters above sea level, on the huge glacier of Vatnajökull, which covers one fifth of the area of Iceland.

Within two hours, in the town of Akureyri in northern Iceland, a rescue party was organized. It consisted of twenty-three men, nine jeeps, and a big truck carrying supplies. The party had to cross 170 kilometers of mountains, lava, unbridged rivers, and rocks before coming to the edge of the glacier. After that thirty-five kilometers on the glacier itself to the wreck!

At daybreak September 20, from the base camp, thirteen men set out to climb Mount Kistufell (altitude 1600 meters) carrying skis and other equipment. Four returned to the camp to make everything ready for the survivors, and the other nine men continued the long trek of seven hours on skis across the glacier to the wreck. Five of them brought the crew down on foot, while the other four pulled the injured air hostess on a sledge. She was the real heroine of the air tragedy and contributed to the escape. She had sewn the clothing



At left: Radio operator Bolli Gunnarsson, who, after days of work, repaired the transmitter and broadcast the SOS.

Below: The wreck of the "Geysir," upside down, from which the crew escaped. The dogs were killed.

that kept the crew from freezing, and her spirits in all the days of suspense were high.

The American airmen whose rescue plane had stranded on the icecap were also brought out. All Iceland followed the rescue by radio, and upon its completion there was real joy in the hearts of the 140,000 people of Iceland.





Nine rescuers on skis crossed the glacier in seven hours to the wreck. Mount Kistufell in the background is 1600 meters high.



The crew of the Skymaster on their way back to safety. Left to right: Engineer Runolfsson, Captain Gudmundsson, Radio Operator Gunnarsson, Stewardess Karlsdóttir, Second Pilot Stefansson, and Navigator Sivertsen.



Niels Poulsen

Forty Years¹

By Crown Prince Olav of Norway

THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION can with great pride look back on the forty years in which it has been in existence. It has been forty years of work in one of the most important—maybe *the* most important field of all human activities: the furtherance of understanding and good-will between the nations of the world through the increase in mutual knowledge and respect.

In the particular aspect of this field with which the Foundation is concerned, namely the relations between the United States of America on the one side, and Denmark, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden on the other, the influence of The American-Scandinavian Foundation has been great.

There have been and are, of course, other important organizations which are working for closer relations between America and the mentioned four countries separately. But The American-Scandinavian Foundation is the only organization which has for its aim the close

¹ An address delivered at the 40th Anniversary of The American-Scandinavian Foundation, November 29, 1950.

cultural relationship of the American people and the Northern countries as a group.

Of course, culturally and ideologically, there is not any serious lack of understanding between our respective countries. We all subscribe to the same ideal of freedom, although we may differ as to the best way to attain it. We all believe in true democracy, and hate totalitarianism and all it stands for. We all have a feeling of high social responsibility. In short, we stand for the same ideals of a decent and dignified life for everybody. With all our national characteristics and differences, we share with each other something fundamental, which has impressed many people from outside and made them speak about "the Nordic spirit."

In fact, the large population of Scandinavian immigrants and their descendants in this country have not found it difficult to adjust themselves to the laws of the land and the ideals upon which these laws rest. The reason is of course that these laws and ideals are essentially the same as those prevalent in the countries from which the immigrants came. I dare say, and I know that Americans whose opinion is generally respected agree with me, that people from the Scandinavian countries constitute some of the most industrious, law-abiding, and God-fearing citizens in the United States, and that they have contributed in no small degree to the prosperity and success of this country.

Still, the story is not as simple as this brief sketch might indicate. The American-Scandinavian Foundation came into existence at the close of a period. The large scale immigration from the Scandinavian countries had come to an end, and a period of adjustment had started, with little new blood coming from abroad. While knowledge of the new country came back, as it had been coming all the time through the "American letters," the developments in the old countries were much less emphasized. The picture of the old country that the immigrants brought with them remained static and their culture found itself with few possibilities of nourishment and growth through direct supplies from the old countries. It stood the risk of being neglected unless it was zealously—I might say stubbornly—guarded and shielded. And it was actually stubbornly guarded and shielded, with little or no relation to the progressing world around it. This gave not only to the immigrants themselves but to the other Americans an entirely out of date impression of what was going on in the old countries. It has been of considerable historic value, since old customs and forms of speech have been preserved in this country, while they have disappeared in the old countries. But otherwise, the Scan-

dinavian countries faced the danger of being looked upon as quaint and charming places where everybody walked around in national costumes and led a medieval peasant life.

At this crucial point, The American-Scandinavian Foundation entered the picture.

The Foundation went to work taking up the task of familiarizing the United States with what you might call modern Scandinavia. This was done through an extensive program of exchange of students in all fields. Thus, new contacts were established on a wide and steadily growing scale, and the flow of knowledge of what was going on and what had happened since the immigrants left the old country grew from a mere trickle into a broad and powerful river.

This exchange, of course, was not a one-way street. It very soon became a two-way affair—as intended—which strengthened the cultural ties between the United States and the Scandinavian countries immensely. This was achieved in the only really effective way, namely by making it possible for Americans and Scandinavians to visit with each other and actually study the problems in the field. Thus, they acquired correct and up-to-date knowledge of each other's countries—for their own benefit and for the benefit of their respective nations.

In a world ridden by misrepresentations and misunderstandings, this is a very important achievement, indeed.

The American-Scandinavian Foundation was founded, as we all know, on November 29, 1910. The name to remember in that connection is Niels Poulson, a Danish immigrant who upon his death left the means to make a dream come true. Niels Poulson was wide awake to the importance of international understanding. Perhaps being a Dane, a citizen of one of the world's smaller countries, had made him more deeply aware of the necessity for cooperation and cultural intercourse between nations. As a representative of another of the world's smaller nations I can assure you that I share Niels Poulson's view wholeheartedly.

Now, I am not going to recapitulate the entire history of this, the oldest foundation in the United States engaged in the field of international education—tempting as it might be. Ever since The American-Scandinavian Foundation brought to the United States the first exhibition of Scandinavian art in 1912 the activities have been varied and manifold.

As a measure of the initiative shown I would like to remind you of the fact, however, that no less than 2,485 students from the Scandinavian countries have visited the United States under the auspices of The American-Scandinavian Foundation during these forty years,

while 405 American students have been given the means to study in Scandinavia. In 1949 alone the Foundation's student and trainee program for Scandinavia represented an investment amounting to a total of 700,000 dollars. No mean feat under today's conditions!

In this connection there is every reason to congratulate The American-Scandinavian Foundation upon its program for trainees which it has developed since the last war. In this field the Foundation has done pioneering work. Thanks to its integrity and high reputation, the Foundation managed to carry out the program even before federal legislation pertaining to these matters had been passed.

The trainee program has made it possible for hundreds of young people in industry, agriculture, business and many other professions to come to this country for a year of practical training, and—what is surely a particularly attractive feature of this program today—to get paid for it! In American dollars, mind you! A number of American firms have demonstrated a most wonderful spirit of cooperation in regard to this program by providing training possibilities—in many cases with no immediate benefit to themselves.

I wish to use this opportunity to convey on behalf of the four Scandinavian countries my warm thanks to all the firms and individuals who have made such important and practical contributions to the cause of international understanding.

A field in which The American-Scandinavian Foundation has had a profound influence and which should certainly not be forgotten today, is the field of publications. It is indeed an imposing series of books on the Scandinavian countries that the Foundation has published during the years. A number of Scandinavian books have also been made available in translations to English-speaking people. Dr. Leach, the scholar, can be rightfully proud of this series. I wish him continued success in this enterprise, which I understand that he has now completely taken over.

And speaking of publications—I also wish to pay tribute to THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW which, under the able editorship of the late Hanna Astrup Larsen, gained a well-deserved reputation as one of the nation's most refined publications. I sincerely hope it will be possible to carry out the present plans for making the REVIEW a monthly publication.

One of the most important events in the last year has been the acquirement of the new building. This has indeed been no small effort on the part of the Foundation. The location seems ideal for the purpose, not very far removed from the previous headquarters. It is also interesting to note the tradition in New York cultural life that

the building carries with it—having been the home of Charles Dana Gibson.

The program of extended activities which the moving into new headquarters makes possible, is to be commended most highly. Concerts, art exhibits, lectures and related activities should add in a very important way toward telling the story of today's Scandinavia.

In carrying out its program, The American-Scandinavian Foundation has the vigorous support of a number of chapters throughout the United States. Such chapters are active in Rock Island, Illinois; Boston, Massachusetts; Berkeley, California; Chicago, Illinois; Blair, Nebraska; Minneapolis, Minnesota; New York; Seattle, Washington; Santa Barbara, California; and Los Angeles, California. Their activities at the "grass roots" make The American-Scandinavian Foundation a truly national organization. It is a great pleasure for me to extend to these chapters my heartfelt thanks for their never-ending enthusiasm in this great cause.

There are, of course, a great many individuals who would deserve special tribute on an occasion like this. Still I feel they might not want to be mentioned by name. Great as their contributions have been—whether they took the form of hard and detailed work, the offering of scholarships, or, in many cases, self-sacrifices—they were all part of the common effort. And it is that spirit—the enthusiasm for a great and inspiring idea—which has made The American-Scandinavian Foundation what it is today: a living and active force in the striving for understanding, good-will and peace among men and nations everywhere.



Forty Good Years¹

FORTY YEARS can be long in the life of an institution that devotes itself to the cementing of cultural ties between nations; the harvest of its efforts during such decades can mount up to an appreciable and enduring contribution. The American-Scandinavian Foundation marked this milestone Wednesday, and Crown Prince Olav and Crown Princess Märtha of Norway lent to the occasion a rare dignity and grace.

Modestly begun by one who had come to this country as an immigrant and here made his fortune, The American-Scandinavian Foundation has maintained an exceptionally high level of leadership and support. The thousands of Scandinavian students it has brought to this country, many of them for training in American business institutions, have given handsome returns to their own countries and less direct but hardly less potent benefits to our own. The publications of the Foundation have made available in the English tongue the rich stores of Scandinavian literature. Today, under the presidency of Mr. Lithgow Osborne, former Ambassador to Norway, the Foundation moves into a new decade with enlarged plans.

The Crown Prince, whose speech paid deserved tribute to the work of the Foundation, is himself a living example of the qualities which mark the Scandinavian countries and make them an adornment to the Western World. His marriage in 1929 formed a link between the three Northern kingdoms. His modesty, his broad and humane interests, make him perfectly at home among us. New York is delighted to have had him and the charming Crown Princess as its guests, during a visit which it trusts may be often repeated through the years.

¹ An editorial in THE NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, December 1, 1950.

Stars Over Carolina

BY HENRY GODDARD LEACH

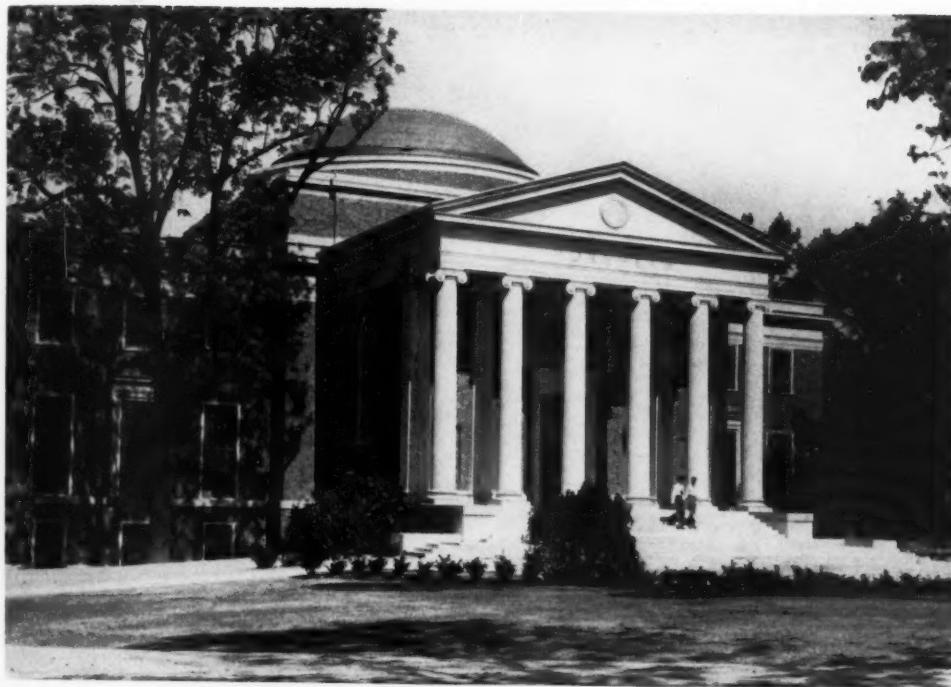
THE CARL ZEISS PLANETARIUM purchased in Sweden by John Motley Morehead, former American Minister to Sweden, was installed in 1949 at the University of North Carolina in the Morehead art-and-astronomy building given to the University by Dr. Morehead.

Dr. Morehead—chemist, diplomat, philanthropist—is a Life Trustee of The American-Scandinavian Foundation. For sixty years he has been engineer of Union Carbide and Carbon Corporation, which he founded, and it is now the third largest industrial corporation in America. The Morehead Building is a monument to his first wife, who selected the majority of the masterpieces of art which it contains.

This is but one of Dr. Morehead's philanthropies. He maintains a Fellowship for graduates of the University of North Carolina appointed by The American-Scandinavian Foundation for study in Sweden. He has established scholarships at the University, of which he is a graduate, for every county in North Carolina.

The Planetarium is so popular that it was visited in the past sixteen months by 212,000 paid admissions and its maintenance is thus already self-supporting.





THE PLANETARIUM



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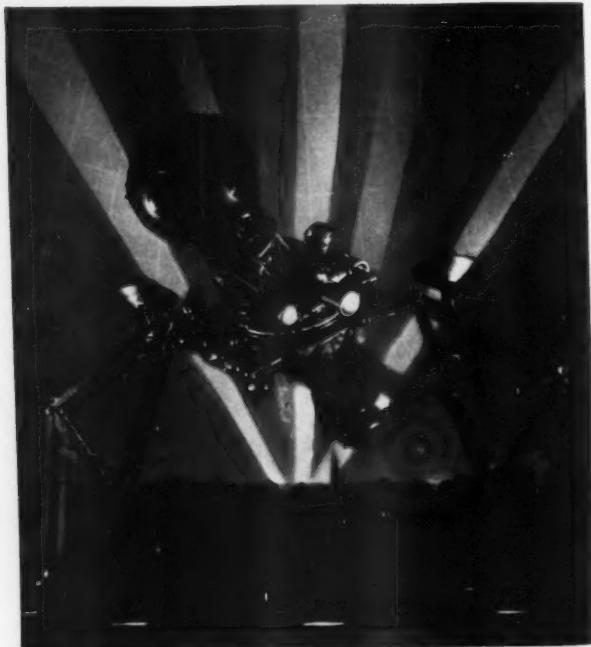
ABOVE—A READING ROOM



BETWEEN—READY FOR DINNER



STAR GAZERS



THE WORKS

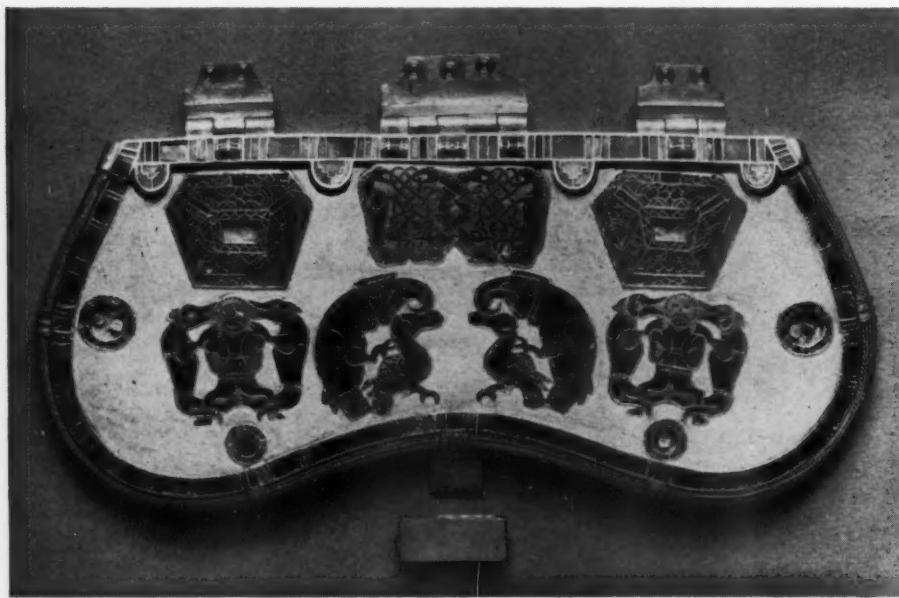


The Boat Grave in Sutton Hoo

The Sutton Hoo Ship-Burial

BY RUPERT BRUCE-MITFORD

SOME YEARS AGO the English public was stirred by the discovery in a tumulus in the county of Suffolk, on England's south-east coast, of a seventh-century ship-burial containing the richest archaeological treasure ever dug from English soil. The place was Sutton Hoo, a hitherto unheard-of private estate near the town of Woodbridge. The excavation, which was undertaken at the request of the owner of the land, Mrs. E. M. Pretty, was carried out by a group of highly skilled and experienced professional archaeologists, and was finished by the end of August, 1939. When war broke out a few days later, the contents of the Sutton Hoo ship was buried for the second time—in one of London's deepest subways. It was not brought out again until the end of 1945, so that the analysis and final publication of the great find is still in its very early stages. Even so, it has



Lid for Purse

already won international recognition as one of the most important historical documents of its era. It was a mercy that it was excavated and minutely recorded by experts and with the resources of modern archaeological technique.

The great ship, of which only the iron bolts and nails survived, was 27 meters in length—twice the size of the biggest boat yet found in the contemporary cemeteries at Vendel and Valsgärde in Uppland. A strong gabled wooden chamber, 5½ meters long, had been built amidships, and in this was arranged a rich and elaborate burial deposit. The chamber had long since collapsed under the weight of many tons of overburden, and the grave-goods were much broken and disarranged. In spite of this, many are well preserved and many can be accurately reconstructed. The excavators found forty-one individual objects of gold, of which thirteen were subsequently found to belong to the richly-decorated lid of a purse. Besides these forty-one gold objects there were in the bag of the purse forty gold coins, all struck at mints in the Rhone valley or the area which is now north-east France. The presence of these coins in the purse was a great stroke of luck, for study of the coins has made it possible to say with certainty that the ship was buried between the years 650 and 670 A.D. The gold pieces mentioned above ornamented a royal harness, including the



Helmet from Sutton Hoo

for the first time figure subjects—men, birds and animals—are achieved in the difficult medium of cloisonné jewelry. The sword has a jewelled gold pommel, to which close parallels can be seen in the gold room of Statens Historiska Museum in Stockholm. It also has two filigree gold mounts on the grip, gold quillons and two jewelled gold scabbard-bosses. The sword knot was terminated in two jewelled gold pyramids of miraculous workmanship.



The Great Gold Buckle from Sutton Hoo

sword belt. Among them are a unique pair of hinged gold epaulettes, a great gold belt-buckle weighing 415 grams, and numerous other buckles and ornamental mounts and fittings. Most of these were thickly encrusted with flat-cut garnets in the cloisonné technique—that is to say, the cut stones were fitted into gold cells that had been soldered to the body of the object, the cells having been shaped and arranged in patterns. The purse and the epaulettes were the most ambitious and important pieces. On them small chequers of blue and white mosaic glass are used in addition to the red garnets to give a gay polychrome effect, and



Fittings from Vendel Graves

In addition to these gold pieces there were two silver spoons, a silver cup and ladle, a set of nine silver bowls and two large silver dishes, all apparently made in either Asia or Byzantium. The biggest silver dish, 72 centimeters in diameter, is stamped with the control stamps of the Byzantine Emperor Anastasius I. This shows that it was made between 491 and 518 A.D. The burial deposit also included an astonishing ceremonial whetstone, 64 centimeters long and weighing 6½ lbs. which is regarded as a sceptre. There was an iron object, two meters high, with a spike at the bottom, and surmounted by a small finely modelled bronze stag. This is almost certainly another symbol of authority: a standard. There was an iron helmet, embellished with silver and gold and ornamented in panels with figure subjects similar to those on the helmets from the Vendel and Valsgärde boat-graves in Uppland. An iron mask with gilt-bronze embellishments covered the wearer's face. There was a large, richly decorated shield, also strikingly like some Swedish pieces. There were three buckets, three bronze cauldrons with iron chain-work and suspension gear, three native British (or Irish) hanging-bowls of bronze with enamelled ornaments, a small six-stringed harp, six drinking-horns with silver-gilt mounts, remains of textiles, and a variety of other objects of leather, bone and wood.

Everything in this astonishing grave is of exceptional quality or rarity. The helmet and the shield are more richly ornamented and of finer execution than any yet found in the Germanic north. The large hanging-bowl is the finest of the eighty-odd examples known. No other grave has produced symbols of authority like the giant whetstone and the standard. One of the drinking-horns was of exceptional size and probably made from the horn of an aurochs, a species of wild ox now extinct. The ship, though probably built about 600 A.D. is as long as the largest vessel yet known of the later Viking Age. The goldsmith who made the jewels was one of the greatest in an age of great



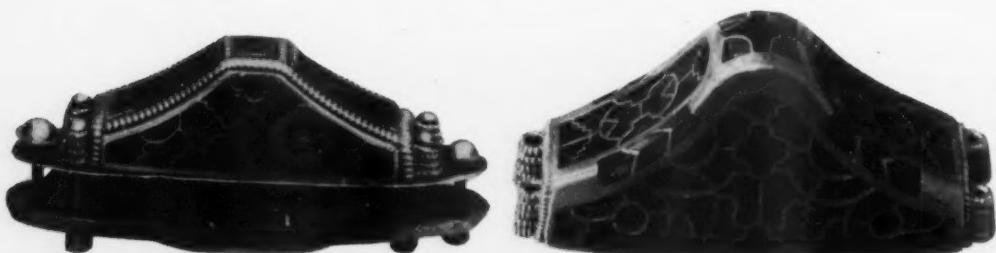
Reconstruction of figures in Sutton Hoo-helmet. Left: Fragment from Oden's Mound, Gamle Uppsala. Right: Bronze plate from Torslunda, Öland

goldsmiths, an artist of the first importance as well as a supreme craftsman, as his lapidary on the technical plane was as outstanding.

A coroner's inquest was held to decide who was the owner of these objects, which had been hastily valued at well above a quarter of a million pounds. The jury found that they were the property of the landowner, Mrs. Pretty, who, with great generosity, presented them as a free gift to the nation. Most of the finds are now on exhibition at the British Museum, where many welcome Swedish visitors have already seen them.

In spite of some imported pieces and foreign affinities in the grave, English archaeologists see no reason to suppose that the Sutton Hoo burial is that of a foreigner. Taken as a whole it fits very well into the background of Anglo-Saxon archaeology. English historians and archaeologists are in fact agreed that it is the grave of one of the East Anglian Kings. Three East Anglian Kings died between the relevant years—650-670 A.D. They were three brothers, Anna (d. 654) Aethelhere (d. 655) and Aethelwald, (d. 663-4). This narrows down the margin for dating to ten years, 654-664. If, however, we can regard the burial as pagan, we can identify it with Aethelhere, for Anna and Aethelwald were active Christians, whereas Aethelhere was very likely a pagan. In this way we could date the burial to within a few weeks of Aethelhere's death on November 15, 655. Whether the view that the burial is that of a pagan be accepted or not (and there is much to be said in its favor), every student of northern archaeology will realize the value of being able to tie down definitely so important a burial to the still narrow limits of a ten-year span.

The study of the Sutton Hoo ship has not progressed beyond the point to which it was taken by Mr. C. W. Phillips, the excavator, in 1940. Although the timbers had completely perished, the iron rivets



Left: Sword Pummel from Sutton Hoo. Right: From Högedsten, Bohuslän

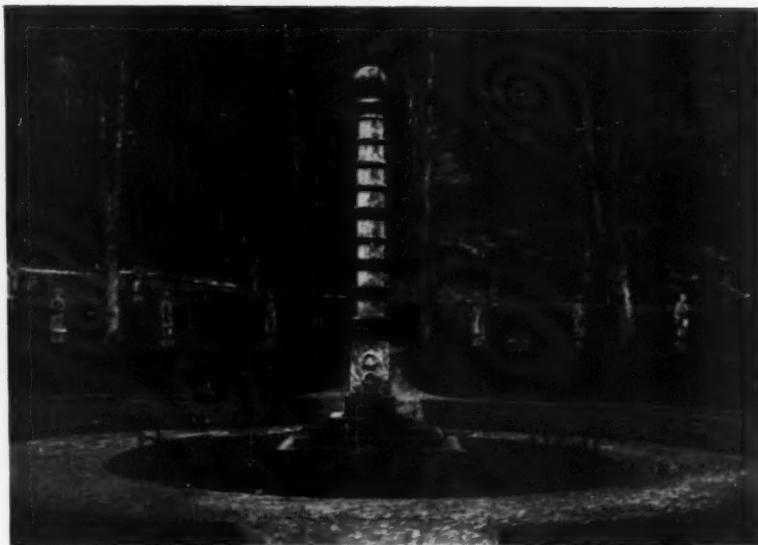
and bolts were preserved, and it was possible to make an accurate reconstruction. It was an open sea-going rowing boat, twenty-six meters long, and with a beam of 4.3 meters, without sail, propelled by thirty-eight oarsmen. It was clinker-built, the strakes being made up of lengths of wood riveted together at overlapping joints, a technical advance on the methods of the builders of the famous Nydam ship (400 A.D.) in the Museum at Kiel.

The Sutton Hoo discovery has of course many important aspects. One is that it provides a new background in Saxon archaeology for the wonderful flowering of manuscript illumination in north England and Ireland at the end of the 7th and in the 8th centuries, which culminated in the Lindisfarne Gospels and the Book of Kells. This is most clearly seen in the extensive use of millefiori chequers and in the design of the rectangular panels of the epaulettes, which strikingly resemble one of the illuminated pages in the Book of Durrow. Another is that we now realize for the first time that the very rich culture of Jutish Kent, the south-easternmost county of England, was surpassed in East Anglia in the 7th century, and that pagan Saxon art reached greater heights than was previously suspected. Another is the wide range of European and oriental contacts revealed by the grave; and the last, but perhaps one of the most interesting points about the find, especially to Swedes—the connexion now revealed for the first time between what has been called ‘the greatest discovery in the annals of British archaeology’ and the Uppland boat-graves.

Rupert Bruce-Mitford of the British Museum published a Swedish translation of this article in ORD OCH BILD and it is to that magazine we are indebted for permission to publish the original and for the loan of the plates.

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Victory Column in Norwegian Marble by Grund

The Riddle of Nordmandsdalen

BY KNUD HENDRIKSEN

IN the lovely park of Fredensborg Castle, between the castle and Lake Esrom, lies Nordmandsdalen, well hidden among tall trees so that it is not easy to find. It is thought to have been an old gravel-pit from "Østrup Vang," which King Frederik V had transformed into the now greatly admired dell, with its sixty-nine sandstone figures of men and women from Norway and the Faroe Islands. These statues were made in the years between 1760 and 1770. In the middle of the dell stands a "victory column" made of Norwegian marble.

The hardy Norwegian farmer has always been "a free man," a decided contrast to the wretched Danish farmer of those times who was always subservient to his lord and master and the stinging whip of his bailiff. It was in *Hoveriet's* last, cruel days, when a Danish farmer lived in constant dread of the terrible

wooden horse. *Hoveri* ("villenage") was the name given to the service that the poor farmer must render to the lord who had rented him his house and land. Often the poor fellow was so mistreated by his lord that he could not tend properly his own soil. But great alleviation in the lot of the farmer was introduced as early as 1775, chiefly by a few progressive nobles, such as the Reventlow brothers and A. P. Bernstorff. *Hoveriet*, however, was not altogether abolished until about 1860.

This barbarous practice was totally unknown in Norway. Nordmandsdalen's figures can be regarded as King Frederik V's salute to his subjects to the north, the free Norwegian farmers.

How the German-born sculptor Johann Gottfried Grund was able to execute the assignment given him by King Frederik V or his counsellors was for long a



Pilot from Mandal, Norway.
Carved in walrus tusk by Garnaas



Man from Voss, Norway. Wooden
doll carved and clothed by Garnaas



Pilot: Statue in Sandstone by
Grund



Man with Snowshoe in Sandstone
by Grund



Bride from Sætesdal, Norway



Woman from Finnmark, Norway

riddle. These sixty-nine statues are invested with their national costumes, which, in those times, were very diverse; and the men's and women's dresses are astonishingly correct. But the curator of Bergen Museum, Einar Lexow, some years ago, found a solution for this remarkable little "fairy tale."

Jørgen Garnaas, a Norwegian mail carrier from Bergen, came to Copenhagen about 1750, got an audience with the king, and showed him various small figures that he had carved out of walrus tusks. These figures of bone were only nine centimeters high, but, to judge from the few that are still preserved in the Bergen Museum and the National Museum in Copenhagen, they seem to give quite a good idea of the different costumes

in the parishes of Norway. Further explanations by this Norwegian postman can be found in Weinwich's *Dansk, Norsk og Svensk Kunstnerlexikon*, Copenhagen 1829, where one reads "Jørgen Garnaas, mail driver, residing in Bergen. Albeit crippled in his hands and feet, he made all sorts of artistic objects and pictures portraying Norwegian farmers, which were accepted in the royal art chambers in Copenhagen."

That the little naive, beautifully carved bone statuettes won the king's approval is clear, and this is also brought out by Grund's impressive foreword to the work that he published in 1773. In this book his sandstone figures are reproduced in

very pale and plain copper-plates, with copious commentary, printed, as was the custom at that time, in Danish and German. The dedication to the queen dowager reads as follows:

"To Queen Juliane Marie, with the deepest humility I lay before Your Majesty this delineation of Nordmandsdalen. King Frederik the Fifth has not only himself started the work and watched its progress every day, but has derived so much pleasure from it that it would have been far more perfect if it had pleased God longer to spare him for his beloved people. Your Majesty also loves this place in Fredensborg's magnificent garden and looks at the statues of her loyal and brave Norwegians with joy. This has moved me to lay this work at Your Royal Majesty's feet and thereby also to show my gladness about Your Majesty's impending high birthday festival. It is for me an honor which I place above everything else, that for the delight of Your Royal Majesty I have been able myself to carry out this work, and my joy over it would be greater than I can describe if Your Majesty likewise would grant this reproduction a gracious glance. I remain in deepest deference Your Majesty's most humble servant, Johan Gottfried Grund. Copenhagen, September 4, 1773."

But not by a single word does the court sculptor disclose that the bone figures by Garnaas were the models for his stiff sandstone statues. The art historian F. J. Meier in his *Fredensborg Slot i Frederik VI, Christian IV og Frederik V's Dage* calls these statues "the sixty-nine stone monsters"! This is perhaps a severe criticism, but, as far as those of the figures that are Norwegian are concerned, it is not without justice. On the other hand I regard the nine figures of Faroe Islanders as far freer and better than those of the Norwegians. Surely the reason for this is that Garnaas had not been to the Faroes! V. Seeger tells in his book about

Fredensborg Park that the prototypes of the Faroe men and women are possibly due to a merchant named Rosenmeyer. The Faroe statues were executed after King Frederik V's death in 1766, and Grund may then have felt himself more free to use his own imagination.

Garnaas, however, is the actual father of the Norwegian sculptures. In a box that was found in the attic of Bergen Museum, Lexow discovered thirty-three more small clothed wooden figures of Norwegian farmers in their picturesque national costumes. Likewise these very amusing dolls seem to have been models for the statues in Nordmandsdalen.

Jørgen Garnaas received, beginning in 1760, an annual pension of one hundred rigsdaler. (He died in Bergen in 1803.) After the death of King Frederik V in 1766 he sent a frantic petition to King Christian VII:

"Most puissant monarch, most gracious hereditary king and lord! By Your Royal Majesty's most blessed father of glorious memory, King Frederik the Fifth, I was most graciously commissioned to execute various small figures in ivory, especially Norwegian farmer folk, dressed in their special costumes which are peculiar to each parish, for which I was most graciously allowed a yearly recompense of one hundred rigsdaler, according to the attached copy of his Excellency Privy Counsellor and Chief Chamberlain von der Lyne's assurance.

"Most puissant monarch, most gracious heir, king, and lord! . . . Therefore I bow most humbly with kneeling and imploring supplication: That the recompense allowed me by the renowned blessed king, by Your Royal Majesty may now be graciously confirmed, so that a poor man with his wife and children shall not be without bread. . . . Listen and grant, most gracious king, the request to me who in deepest submission remains for the duration of his life Your Royal

Majesty's most loyal, faithful, hereditary subject Jørgen Christensen Garnaas. Copenhagen, August 20, 1766."

As already explained, the Norwegian figures in Nordmandsdalen cannot claim the highest valuation as art. Nevertheless, several art critics have accorded them a certain recognition. Our great art historian N. L. Høyen (1798-1870) calls them a first and interesting attempt in a Danish national art, which he looked forward to with such great yearning; for him these statuettes indicated the beginning of the naturalistic tendency in art. And the art historian Th. Oppermann writes in his beautiful book *Kunsten i Danmark under Frederik V og Christian VII* (1906): "They give a trustworthy picture of different national costumes, and, among all the many failures, a few of the statues show a naive, clear, yes, almost animated conception of the task!"

"In a 'Milkmaid from Suderøen' there is a foundation of good observation and not a little breadth of modelling." "And in the 'Bride from Strømøe in the Faroes' there is a statuesque strength that seems to rest on a genuine admiration for the model." The sum of it all is: Nordmandsdalen at Fredensborg is *unique!* Nothing like it is found anywhere in the whole world.

Several Danish writers have introduced romantic Nordmandsdalen into their works. The author Carl Bernhard in his novel *To Venner* ("Two Friends") lets one of the young ladies say pointedly "This dale reminds me of the grove of The High Gods, where no unconsecrated foot dare tread." And again: "These bearded Icelanders and Norwegians look at a distance like the old heathen Gods in their sacred grove."

Knud Hendriksen of Copenhagen, an Associate Editor of the REVIEW, has contributed articles for many years.

Apple-Blossoms

BY GRETHE RISBJERG THOMSEN

Translated from the Danish by R. P. Keigwin

HOW can oppressions come, and cruelties,
and how can folk be murdered still, or hated—
while there are living things so full of peace
as those slim branches there with blossom freighted?

Restless I went, alone, and nursed my grief;
but now there seems to steal within my bosom
slowly a sense of quiet from belief
in the pure beauty of that world of blossom.

With patience bow to what the fates decree,
and bear the ills that come without complaining.
Wholly impoverished you can never be,
while there are apple-blossoms still remaining.

The Literary Scene in Norway

BY EUGENIA KIELLAND

Three books written in Norway since World War II and that may prove to be classics are omitted from Mrs. Kielland's commentary on the ground that they are biographies. KON-TIKI EKSPEDISJONEN ("Kon Tiki"), by Thor Heyerdal, is the factual but imaginative diary of six Scandinavians who drifted on a raft for four thousand miles from Peru to Polynesia. FRA DAG TIL DAG ("From Day to Day"), by Odd Nansen is both a record of his imprisonment and a generous psychological study of his sadistic persecutors. DE TRE ("The Three"), by Bergliot Ibsen, is a biography of the private life of genius—Ibsen, his wife, and his son.

THE EDITOR

WHEN one scans the Norwegian book world after World War II one is struck by the disappearance of many names that once were well-known. Although, naturally, little by little, new writers bob up and win public attention, on the whole the losses are heavy and almost irreplaceable. Great authors like Olav Duun and Sigrid Undset do not appear in every century; fine literary personalities, such as Fredrik Paasche, Sigurd Christiansen, and Ronald Fangen, are not readily replaced; all of these death has taken, several of them in comparative youth. In the midst of his development stood also the talented and spirited Nordahl Grieg, who plunged down in a plane over Berlin after he had rendered his land great military services. Of the literary veterans it is chiefly Peter Egge and Johan Falkberget who are still in full career, and also Herman Wildenvey, who never seems to become weary of presenting us with new lyrical confidences out of the poetical springs within him.

Two events, one sad, the other happy, have set their stamp on the literary scene during the past two years. After having, for half a century, occupied a central place in the Norwegian book world, Sigrid Undset died, suddenly and unexpectedly, in June, 1949. By a remarkable coincidence Professor Andreas Winsnes had just then completed the manuscript of a book about our world-famous authoress. He had given the book the subtitle "A Study in Christian Realism" and by so doing placed the work on a philosophical plane. This pleased Mrs. Undset, who had the opportunity to read the manuscript and expressed her satisfaction with it. For years, praise had been bestowed on the author on account of her historical novel *Kristin Lavransdatter*, which won for her the Nobel Prize in Literature. But, like all great writers, she felt herself done with a book when it was completed and turned her attention toward other fields. And now she was happy to see how much weight Winsnes—himself a philosopher—placed upon the historical and biographical works that occupied her more and more in her last years and how he grouped them in relation to her earlier production. But this book by Winsnes is not only philosophy; it has a purely biographical form. On the foundation of Mrs. Undset's own enchanting autobiography of her childhood he relates the story of her life up to the time when she achieved fame. Out of a penetrating analysis of Sigrid Undset as poet and person he paints a prose picture of her which is indeed monumental. Her position among her countrymen as a religious and moral personality is brought out on the background of her literary accomplishments. Her impressive spiritual dimensions emerge clearly

from Winsnes' ardent interpretation.

A wholly unique position was achieved by Mrs. Undset during the war, when she, as an exile, resided in the United States. To America, freedom's land, she entrusted herself, when Norway fell into the hands of the foe, and found there a hearty welcome from the people and the president. In her little home in Brooklyn all her time was spent in making Norway's cause known, partly by brochures and lectures, and partly by talking with the many people who wished to meet the celebrated authoress. In reality Sigrid Undset's was a very isolated nature, and the world of society was not for her. But all personal predilections she set aside in order to work for her beloved land. She conceived, in addition, a warm affection for the people and the country that had received her in such a friendly way in the times of misfortune. She had always been an eager botanist, and she studied with intense interest the plant as well as the bird life of America, about which she wrote enthusiastic articles in "The New York Times" and other periodicals. With authors, Willa Cather and others, she established a warm friendship and carried on a large correspondence with them after her return home.

But after the war she felt tired, and not even residence in her beloved Bjerkebekk at Lillehammer could repair the wear and tear and nervous strain the war had caused her. It was hard for her to bear the loss of some of her nearest and dearest, especially her eldest son, who had fallen in the fighting in Norway. It is true that she wrote important articles for magazines and the press. However, the continuation of her excellent novel *Madame Dorthea*, of which the first volume appeared before the war, never materialized. Her heart was strained, and for those nearest to her it was perhaps not surprising that she never recovered after an acute illness. All Norway, as well as thousands abroad, felt her death

to be a great loss. In our uncertain times there had been a definite assurance in having among us a personality with such an unshakable faith and rock-like steadfastness.

JOHAN FALKBERGET

In the autumn of 1949 the popular author Johan Falkberget celebrated his seventieth birthday and published on that occasion a selection of his articles and speeches. His writings have always been meant for the working people; he is first and foremost the miners' and mountaineers' author. He has also been a politician and sat in the Storting a number of years, and, as a member of the Labor Party, manifested an active love for those who toil hard for their daily bread in cramped and poor circumstances. With his fantasy and joy of narrative he has spread glamor over that life of hard labor; he has created respect for the knights of labor, and by doing so has earned an assured position in our land. A collection for him from all over the country brought in as great a sum as a Nobel Prize. To this gift Norwegians in America also contributed. In June, 1950, Sweden acknowledged Falkberget's greatness by making him an honorary doctor at the University of Stockholm. At this writing the honorary doctor is at work with his plough in the stony soil in Rugeldalen near Røros. The gift of money has enabled him to build himself a solid new house where he can defy the ice-cold winters that visit the mountains up north. Meanwhile his readers wait eagerly for his many activities to allow him to write the third and last volume of his grand book about the earliest days of the iron works, the splendid novel *Nattens brød* ("The Bread of Night").

DR. MAX TAU

Another Norwegian citizen has also received a foreign distinction and of a sort more rare than Falkberget's. Dr. Max Tau, who came to Norway during the per-

secution of the Jews in Germany and was naturalized here, and who enjoys the greatest respect in his new fatherland, was given June 3 the German publishers' peace prize for his work for peace before and after the war. Max Tau's book *Tro på mennesket* ("Belief in Man") has been translated into several languages. It serves as a message of understanding and friendship in this "wolf age."

PETER EGGE

There is always Peter Egge, active and full of life, although he has completed his eightieth year. His *Minner fra barndom og ungdom* ("Memories from My Childhood and Youth") is a piece of writing that can be read with maximum profit. Egge is, as everyone knows, a native of the Trondheim district, and the first section of his last work will be of special interest to people living there, especially the older generation. Egge comes of a farming family; his father moved to town from the inner reaches of Trondheim Fjord and dwelt in one of the narrow side streets down near the water, the so-called "Veiter." He worked in a shop and storehouse and, in his later years, got the job of managing a livery stable. There were many children in the family, and before little Peter was big enough to take care of himself he found a job and began to earn money. But his passion for reading and knowledge was great, and his parents had the wisdom to let him go to high school, which he fought himself through by using holidays and Sundays for reading. His great hope was to go to college and pass the examinations for the university. But the difficulties could not be surmounted, and he had to go back to a job. This time he went to sea partly in order to see a little of the world and widen his horizon. To write had long been his ambition. But still he had to slave it for a time as bricklayer, a job that was altogether too hard for his young body. By accident he met a young author who

had connections with publishing, and Egge got a job on the Trondheim newspaper *Dagsposten*, whose editor, Håkon Løken, became his teacher in journalism. He wrote his first book *Almue* ("The Common People"), and soon began to win stipends which gave him the means to visit the continent and reside there for a considerable time. Here he met all the Norwegian authors of that period, Bjørnson and Camilla Collett, Hamsun and Hans E. Kinck, and now he tells in his new book arresting and amusing things about all of them. Egge has been an unusually active and productive author, having written more than fifty books, among them fourteen plays that have been produced in most of the important theatres of Europe. Sharp observation, penetrating knowledge of men, fine irony, warm sympathy and a sense of humor characterize his great book of reminiscences, which must rank as an important contribution to the history of Norwegian life during the past sixty or seventy years.

INGEBORG REFLING HAGEN

The recent books of Ingeborg Refling Hagen constitute an autobiography of a very unusual sort. This authoress is known by Norwegians in America, because she has given the most vivid expression of the nostalgia which often seizes the emigrants, even though life in "Uniten" offers them far better economic conditions than a poor homeland could give them. It is the poem *Jeg vil hemat* ("I Will Homeward") that is spread in reprints far and wide on both sides of the Atlantic. There has lately been a gap in Refling Hagen's production, for, during the war, she was imprisoned by the Germans in a hospital, and it took her some time to overcome the restraint and nervous exhaustion of that experience. Since then she has produced a few small books that together give a camouflaged account of her life. Brought

up in a poor home at Tangen on Lake Mjøsen, she very early exhibited a fondness for reading, which made her devour all the books she could lay hands on in the school and public libraries. And this reading enriched her unusually vivid imagination. With enthusiasm she championed the ideas of Wergeland in our spiritual life; Henrik Wergeland's warm love for the lowly members of society awoke echoes in her, and she made his program for popular education her own. Her style of writing was influenced by Hans E. Kinck, and, when she made her debut with some stories from Hedemark, her readers recognized at once a great and original talent. She has written a series of novels marked by a grotesque imagination and inclined to weirdness. But she has also room for humor and idyl. The great variety of gifts at her command are not always equally well coordinated; it can happen that she gets herself into a sort of intellectual chaos. It is not as a philosopher, however, but as a novelist that she is important. Now she tells about the first years of her life in books that have rather the character of children's books; then follows a book with its strongest appeal to youth; and finally she relates in a novel called *Jeg vil lete og banke* ("I Will Seek and Knock") about her intense desire to solve all the riddles that man is heir to. At present Ingeborg Refling Hagen lives on her homestead by Lake Mjøsen, where her house is a center for information and the art education of the young people of that neighborhood.

ANDREAS MARKUSSON

An author who has become popular because of his novels about our most northern districts is Andreas Markusson. He himself grew up in a fisherman's home in Malangen; his parents were Læstadians, that is to say they were followers of the Swedish itinerant preacher and missionary Lars Levi Læstadius. A

couple of Markusson's most interesting books tell about the great wave of conversion which that remarkable person effected among the people of Finnmark. But otherwise Markusson is the fisherman's author, and in books written in a refreshing and folksy style he gives us pictures of life by the sea up in the north. It is not the good old romanticism of the days of Jonas Lie with its ten-oared boats. Markusson is a wholly modern realistic novelist, and he follows the fishermen out to the banks and in arctic waters. Especially popular with his northern countrymen became his novel *Flåten går ut* ("The Fleet Goes Out"), a book that is found in practically every home up there in the north. Without exaggeration and impressive verbiage this author has succeeded in giving a trustworthy and highly sympathetic picture of the active, progressive fisherman, who culturally stands as high as anyone, but has not in the course of his education lost his physical strength and the courage that is required of his dangerous and exacting calling. After following his heroes up to the time after the war, Markusson has now taken hold of new material, namely, the great merchant houses and their development since 1814. Like small kings the great merchants sat out on the promontories or inside the fjords; they provided the fishermen with all that they needed to equip their boats for the catch; they lent them money and got it back again after a lucky haul. But they really took their chance with the fishing folk, as bad years and large outstanding debts often brought bankruptcy in their wake. Some old business houses, nevertheless, maintained their position in the consciousness of the community, even to our own days, and it is about their shifting fate that Markusson wishes to tell us in one or more of his future books.

MAGNHILD HAALKE

Magnhild Haalke of Namdalen is at

present the most outstanding of our women writers. She has written a series of gripping novels, chiefly about the milieu from which she comes, but also about city life. Compassion and a strong sense of justice are the fundamental feelings that find expression in her works, and she makes a vigorous defence for all who suffer unjustly in the home or in society. In a series of three connected books she depicts the fate of a daughter who remains at home and takes care of her old parents when her brothers and sisters go out into the world. Gry is a lovable person; she does her best for the old folks, but she is in love and betrothed to a young man who longs to marry her and have his own home together with her. But always he must wait and wait, for the old folks cannot do without Gry, and Gry is too weak and too considerate to demand her right to happiness at the cost of others. In the end the man grows weary of waiting; his erotic life craves a normal development, and a handsome young girl of the sort that there are twelve of in every dozen entices him with her fresh youth away from the good self-sacrificing Gry, who is beginning to show her first gray hair. This problem of a child's care of her parents is indeed a burning issue in every land and becomes steadily more and more pressing as it grows more difficult to get any help for the aged. Magnhild Haalke handles this problem with an intense warmth in a way that is as remarkable for her compelling style as for her poetical imagination and her almost psychic knowledge of human nature. She has been unable to indicate, however, any solution of this problem, but she arouses the most serious reflections and has, without doubt, opened many eyes to the bitter fate of those who pay their debt to their parents without ever receiving any thanks or recompense. The trilogy about Gry, which must be reckoned as Magnhild Haalke's masterpiece, is now coming out in a new

edition. In her last book *Røsten* ("The Voice"), Mrs. Haalke takes up the cause of refugee children. She describes their loneliness and rootlessness, even though they are not mistreated in the homes to which they are assigned, and she directs a strong appeal to the authorities and private persons for understanding of and friendliness for these step-children of destiny.

SIGURD HOEL

Sigurd Hoel has written the most important and comprehensive book about the days of reckoning after the war. He brings together in his *Møte ved milepælen* ("Meeting at the Milestone") a wealth of materials that reveal the grounds—psychological and sociological—on which a portion of the people of Norway lost their bearings and were influenced by Nazi ideology. And with rare ability he constructs from this material a narrative that is both illuminating and fascinating and, in addition, very exciting. Even those who do not agree with his conclusions will find it valuable to know his point of view. Sigurd Hoel has for many years enjoyed a central position in our literary life both as writer and translator and not least as the one who introduced modern American authors to Norway. As literary adviser to the publishing house of Gyldendal he has edited the so-called "Yellow Series," in which many outstanding authors of the United States have made their first entry into the Norwegian book world.

AKSEL SANDEMOSE

A fascinating author, indeed, is Aksel Sandemose, who was born in Denmark of Norwegian parentage. His spiritual and artistic novels have derived certain impulses from American literature, which he studied during a lengthy stay in the United States in his adventurous youth. His recent novels have one peculiar characteristic: the action does not count for

much, although it is exciting enough—the chief impression his books leave with the reader is the memory of having spent a number of hours together with a spirited and unique personality who has amusing things to say about a variety of subjects.

ARNULF ØVERLAND

The language question in Norway, the split between revised "Danish-Norwegian"—*riksmål*—and "New Norse"—*landsmål*, is still confused and undecided. As a rule the languages flourish side by side quite peaceably, but from time to time lively feuds arise, when the opponents bombard each other with arguments. We are now in the midst of such a period, and the chief exponent is the distinguished lyric poet Arnulf Øverland, who, during the war, wrote a song to King Haakon and had to pay for it with several years in the concentration camp of Sachsenhausen. Now he defends tooth and nail the *riksmål* in which he wrote his beautiful poetry.

TARJEI VESAAS

Among the writers in *landsmål* there is the highly gifted Tarjei Vesaas. He is from Vinje in Telemark and is married

to the fine lyricist Halldis Moren of Trysil. From depicting the farming environment out of which he came—and he has from there given us a number of excellent novels—Vesaas has developed into an author of dimensions, who, in thick volumes, handles themes that are common to the world at large. His approach is decidedly ethical, and his writings reveal an understanding of life's fundamental problems that make his readers feel spiritually enriched. Vesaas has now arrived at a form that can best be called symbolic; images play a great role in his art, and with their help he burns his vision into the reader's mind, even though the meaning of his picture-language is not always quite clear. His fondness for metaphor has now led him also into lyrics, but the novel will probably always be his characteristic form of expression.

In addition to the writers mentioned here, most of whom belong to the older generation, there is at work indeed in our land a multitude of young authors, men and women, whose names we hope will some day be recorded with honor for our interested kinsmen on the other side of the Atlantic.

Again we welcome Norway's veteran literary critic Eugenia Kielland to the REVIEW. Her account of Norwegian writers during the Occupation appeared in 1946.



The Invalid

BY WILFRED ANDERSEN

I STOOD and watched a surfbeaten rock
and saw a huge and enormous wave
bursting against it, with bristling spray...
crushing down everything on its way...

I saw how the wave, with heavy groans
was forced to withdraw to the seaweed-stones
It got no rest—and again and again
it fought against something—but all in vain!

And I thought of myself, and my life on earth,
my life till this day from my day of birth:
Too sound for death and too ill for life,
is my destiny here in my hopeless strife. . . .

The Look of Lawn

BY LOUISE TOWNSEND NICHOLL

THE look of lawn, the timeless lay of land,
Old grass, old moss and grass, around the trees,
Sweet contour curved with faint declivities
To fill the eye, to fit the foot, the hand.

A piece of earth primordially planned
For this, from ancient small cartographies—
The look of lawn, the timeless lay of land,
Old grass, old moss and grass, around the trees.

Now at its peak forever it should stand,
Knitted with noonday shadow in the breeze,
Fixed in fluidity at the command
Of some deep law which knows that home is these:
The look of lawn, the timeless lay of land,
Old grass, old moss and grass, around the trees.

Grand Concert in Boston

BY ERNEST JOHN MOYNE

ON SUNDAY, October 3, 1869, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow recorded in his journal:

In the evening John Owen came in, bring[ing] Mrs. Brown the Lecturer and her daughter, and a Miss Borg, a Swedish girl from near Abo in Finland.

This meeting with the American poet proved to be of momentous importance to the Swedish girl from Finland, for Longfellow's encouragement and help were influential in her subsequent literary and musical career in America.

Selma Josefina Borg, a talented woman who was born in Finland in 1838, spent years of untiring effort introducing Finnish literature and music to the most cultivated audiences in America. Educated in Finland, Sweden, and Switzerland, she came to the United States in 1864. In this country she began teaching modern languages and music, at first in Pennsylvania, then in Minnesota, and later in Boston. Although she published many English translations of Finnish and Swedish works in collaboration with Marie A. Brown, from the year 1870 on, Selma Borg apparently was better known in America as a musician than as a translator.

During the 1870's and 1880's Selma Borg was active in the musical life of Philadelphia, New York, and Boston. Ever since Jenny Lind's successful tour of the United States in 1850-1852, Scandinavian musicians had come to America, where receptive audiences welcomed them. Ole Bull and Christina Nilsson particularly helped to keep alive American interest in Scandinavian music from 1852 until the 1880's. Selma Borg also worked hard in the cause of Northern European music and with gratifying success. In

1876 she published in Philadelphia the words and music of thirty songs under the title *Lays of Sweden and Finland, Svenska och Finska Sånger*. A few years later there appeared in New York *The National Songs of Finland*, as arranged for the pianoforte by Albert Ross Parsons from the manuscript scores presented to Selma Borg by Finnish composers, and introduced by her in America at her grand orchestral concerts.

In the spring of 1879, almost ten years after she had first met Longfellow, Selma Borg was busy making arrangements for her initial concert of Scandinavian music in Boston. Early in April her friend Zadel Barnes Gustafson, Boston author and poet, informed Longfellow about Selma Borg's plans, and apparently enlisted his help in her behalf. Another friend, Geneviève Ward, the internationally famous actress, who was performing at the Boston Theatre at that time, wrote to Longfellow on April 9, 1879:

It seems superfluous to add a word to Mrs. Gustafsons [sic] very comprehensive letter, but we are all so much interested in Miss Borg, that I must tell you so.

Always willing to help others, Longfellow offered every assistance to Selma Borg in her undertaking, and followed the progress of the preparations for the concert with keen interest. When Selma Borg was obliged by her previous engagements to be absent from Boston, Mrs. Gustafson took care to keep Longfellow informed of all developments. On May 6, 1879, she wrote to him:

The reserved seat ticket sale for Selma's concert is now open and she is anxious that you should have seats for yourself and party in just the part of the house you prefer, so that you may enjoy her music without fear

of the rude approach of Kabibonokka or the gentler yet more subtle Shawondasee!

If you will drop me a line at once, saying where you will like to sit and how many tickets you will do her the honor to use, she will see that they are secured and sent to you immediately.

But Longfellow was not the only one interested in Northern European music, for on May 11, 1879, the *Boston Daily Globe* reported:

Miss Selma Borg, at the request of Longfellow, Osgood, Eichberg, Zerrahn and many others, is to give an orchestral performance of Finland music at the Music Hall on Friday evening next.

Selma Borg was indeed fortunate in having as sponsors not only the most famous American poet of the day but also the most prominent men in the musical circles of Boston. George Laurie Osgood, singer, composer, and teacher, was the conductor of the Boylston Club of Boston, a male chorus which under his direction was transformed into a mixed choral organization of two hundred voices. Julius Eichberg, violinist, composer, and teacher, was the founder and director of the Boston Conservatory of Music and one of the most important musicians of the period. Carl Zerrahn was the conductor of the Handel and Haydn Society of Boston, and he also directed the concerts of the Harvard Musical Association.

On May 15, the day before the eagerly awaited event, the *Boston Daily Advertiser* contained this announcement:

Selma Borg, of Finland, Russia. Grand Orchestral Concert of Finnish and Swedish Music, Music Hall, Friday Evening, May 16, 1879. Miss Borg conducts in person.

Selma Borg's concert at the Music Hall on the following evening was certainly unique, inasmuch as it presented the singular spectacle of an orchestra conducted by a woman, while the program, with the exception of the first number, was composed entirely of Russian, Finnish, Swedish, and Norwegian music. The first piece on the program was an organ solo, "Pro-

cessional March," played at the request of the audience by its composer Samuel Brenton Whitney, famous organist and choirmaster, founder of the Guild of Organists and examiner in the American College of Musicians. In addition to Whitney and a full orchestra, Selma Borg was assisted in her concert by the well-known Boston artist, Mrs. C. C. Noyes, contralto; Julius Jordan, soloist of the Boston Boylston Club, tenor; David Wallis Reeves, leader of the American Band of Providence, Rhode Island, cornet; and Allen Webster Swan, concert organist and chorus conductor, piano. The second number on the program consisted of tenor solos by Julius Jordan: "Dawn in the Forest," a Finnish song by Carl Collan, and "Russia's Prayer for Freedom" by Gustaf Stolpe. After these songs Selma Borg led the orchestra in the ancient Finnish pieces "Vasa March" and the "March of the Finns," as played at the battle of Lützen when Gustavus Adolphus gave up his life for the cause of Protestantism. Mrs. Noyes and Mr. Jordan then sang two duets, "Moonlight" and "Twilight Hour" by Gunnar Wennerberg. Before the intermission D. W. Reeves played as cornet solos three Finnish songs which he had arranged himself, and the orchestra under Selma Borg's direction obliged with Södermann's "Swedish Wedding March."

The second part of the concert opened with the "Russian National Hymn" and closed with the "National Hymn of Finland." Also on the program were Mrs. Noyes' alto solos "Remembrance" and "The Golden Star" by Carl Collan, and Mr. Jordan's tenor solos "Forest Wandering," "The Young Birch-Tree," and "Spring Song" by Grieg. During the second half of the concert, the orchestra, conducted by Selma Borg, performed the "Overture to the Finnish Opera *Kullervo*" by Filip von Schantz, "Swedish Folk Songs" by Södermann, and "Björneborg's March," as played by the Finnish

Guard in many battles, the latest before Plevna in 1878.

This concert, which probably introduced Finnish music to a critical Boston audience for the first time, was hailed as a major triumph. Most of the critics agreed with the reviewer of the *Boston Daily Globe*, who said of the concert that it added another "to the list of Miss Borg's brilliant successes in this country." But as usual there were some less favorable reviews, such as the one which appeared in *Dwight's Journal of Music* a month after the concert had taken place. The critic of this journal was disappointed in the music presented, because he found it far less national, distinctive, or characteristic, than he had expected. Doubtful about Selma Borg's ability as a conductor, he wrote:

Her manner was extremely enthusiastic, seemingly inspired by her country's music; her motions energetic, free, and graceful. She seemed to be acting out the emotions of the music before the orchestra and audience; and how far that might be helpful to the musicians, we are not yet prepared to judge. Nor was it possible, from anything done in that concert, to measure her musicianship. . . . But at all events the zeal for her native music, which moves her to stand forth as its interpreter and advocate—a mission not without its sacrifices—is worthy of respect.

Criticism such as this did not discourage Selma Borg from her mission of introducing Finnish music in America, and her zeal for her native melodies was not misplaced. Finnish music is well known and admired in America today: most Americans know at least the works of Selma Borg's distinguished kinsman, the Finnish composer, Jean Sibelius.

Ernest John Moyne is professor of English in the University of Delaware.

To Margherita

BY FRANS G. BENGTSSON

Translated from the Swedish by Charles Wharton Stork

THE music I now summon to salute you
Is such as from an ash tree flute may sound,
Yet I could wish a dream world less would suit you
Than just to walk with me on solid ground.
I'm dwelling in a soft Arcadian rapture,
But fain would leave, though sweet the scented air.
Your heart's the red republic I would capture
And be established as a monarch there.

For throne if but your footstool could be lent me,
I know of nothing that could more content me;
I crave no Frenchman's passion-stormy bliss.
I'll play for you as long as you require it,
Then drop my flute, when you no more desire it,
And humbly kneel to beg you for a kiss.

Scandinavians in America

A portrait bust of Lars Paul Eshjörn has been presented to the Augustana Theological Seminary in Rock Island, Illinois, by congregations in the Swedish provinces of Hälsingland and Gästrikland. Eshjörn, who was the son of a farmer from Delsbo in Hälsingland, came to the United States in 1849 and became the founder of the Augustana Synod. He returned to Sweden in 1862.

The Pasteur Medal of the Swedish Physicians' Association has been awarded Dr. Oswald T. Avery, an emeritus member of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research in New York, for his work in bacteriology and hygiene. Dr. Avery, a native of Halifax, N.S., has been doing research at the Vanderbilt University Medical School, Nashville, Tennessee.

Nels L. Olson, a native of Sweden, who rose from blacksmith to become a prominent banker and industrialist in Michigan, died in Detroit on September 15 at the age of 81. Born on a farm in Skåne, he emigrated to America in 1888. During a fifteen-year-period he moved his blacksmith forge from California to Oregon and then to Montana. He developed an improved plow-share point which aided greatly in the excavation of ore. In 1910 he moved to Detroit and with a few associates set up the Swedish Crucible Steel Company, which during two wars provided the U.S. Government with steel castings. He later became president of the American Plastic Company and the Olson Development Company.

Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. has received an unusual gift, namely a collection of Danish underground publications, pamphlets, illegal newspapers, and clippings. The gift was presented by C. J. R. Lindegaard of Copenhagen.

A Norwegian emigrant, Iver Thaug, who died two years ago in North Dakota, willed \$10,000 to the Old People's Home in his native valley of Sel.

Half-hour Swedish radio programs over Station WROK are sponsored by the Swedish Historical Society of Rockford, Illinois. A monthly program bulletin will be mailed to anyone interested.

Frank E. Bagger of Brooklyn, N.Y., a former president of the New York Chapter of The Foundation, has been decorated with the Knight Cross of the Order of Dannebrog.

Dr. Gudrune Friis-Holm of Los Angeles, now retired from the medical profession, devotes much time to giving recitals of the works of Hans Christian Andersen and other storytellers. In the words of one listener, "Dr. Friis-Holm has a natural gift for story-telling. She is especially happy in her rendering of Andersen's fairy tales, so dear and familiar to young and old."

In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the beginning of diplomatic relations between Denmark and the United States, an exhibition of four centuries of Danish literary history was on display at the Houghton Li-



"NORWAY NIGHT" AT THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION IN NEW YORK

L. to r.: Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Ambassador Charles U. Bay, Mrs. Asta Meidell, Mrs. Bay, Ambassador Wilhelm Morgenstierne

brary of Harvard University from October 26 to November 26. The exhibit was officially opened by Henrik de Kauffmann, the Danish Ambassador. First of its kind in Harvard annals, the show centered round the works of Hans Christian Andersen and featured a first edition of his *Fairy Tales*, loaned for the occasion by the motion picture actor, Jean Hersholt. This edition, one of four copies known, was published in Copenhagen in 1835. Among the other works on display were a 1550 edition of the Danish bible, a 1598 edition of one of Tycho Brahe's works on astronomy, and the earliest Latin and Danish editions of Holberg's *Niels Klim's Underworld Journey*.

As in years past, there were booths representing Denmark, Norway, and

Sweden at the 27th Annual Women's International Exposition held in New York November 6-12. "Norway Night," sponsored every year by the Norwegian American Women's Committee, headed by Mrs. Bergliot Lindbergh Goldberg, was held on November 10. Highlighting the evening affair, which included addresses by Ambassadors Morgenstierne and Bay, was the presentation of the Exposition's Medallion of Honor to Mrs. Asta Meidell of Sarpsborg, Norway. Selected for her outstanding achievements in the field of social work, she is the wife of Arne Meidell, president of A/S Borregaard Paper and Pulp Mills. Among the other "Women of Achievement" who received the Medallion were Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Ambassador Eugenie Anderson, Mrs. Ruth Bryan

Rohde, Miss Mary T. Norton, Begum Liaquat Ali Khan of Pakistan, and Sister Mary Madeleva of St. Mary's College, Indiana.

Norway also participated in the Southwest International Trade Fair held in San Antonio, Texas, November 3-12. The Norway booth at the first exhibit of world products in San Antonio included pictures, handicraft, and silverware.

That the Scandinavian spirit is very much alive in Manitoba is evidenced by the Bulletin of the Viking Club of Winnipeg. The Bulletin, now in its third year, is put out by H. A. Brodahl, Secretary of the society.

C. H. W. Hasselriis, head of the Danish Information Office in New York, on November 15 was made a Knight of the Swedish Order of the North Star.

The Norwegian-American Historical Association celebrated its 25th Anniversary at its convention in Northfield, Minnesota on October 6. The activities and accomplishments of the past quarter of a century were reviewed and plans formulated for the future. Among the Association's achievements are the publication of 33 historical volumes, the establishment of the Norwegian-American Historical Museum in Decorah, Iowa and the Archives section at St. Olaf College. Among the many speakers were Halvard Lange, Foreign Minister of Nor-

way, and Dr. Franklin D. Scott of Northwestern University.

Mrs. Alice M. Roberts, of Dallas, Texas, is the first woman in history to be made a member of the consular service of Sweden. Mrs. Roberts was born in the United States of Swedish parents and spent much of her early life in Sweden. As Swedish Vice Consul in Dallas she hopes to be able to further the exchange of students and tourists between Texas and Sweden.

H. Alarik W. Myrin of Kimberton, Pa., has been awarded the Royal Swedish Order of Vasa, with the rank of Commander. Mr. Myrin received the honor in recognition of his interest in ecclesiastical and educational matters, both in his native Swedish province of Värmland and in this country and for furthering the cultural relations between Sweden and the United States.

On October 8 the one hundredth anniversary of the arrival of the first Swedish settlers in Minnesota and the founding of the community of Scandia was observed. It was in 1850 that three young Swedish pioneers, from the province of Västergötland, Oscar Roos, Carl Fernström and August Sandahl, broke ground near Hay Lake and there built the first log cabin in the state. On its site a stone obelisk was raised in 1902, and this marker was rededicated at the centennial ceremony. The speakers included Governor Luther W. Youngdahl of Minnesota, and among those present were a son and daughter of Oscar Roos.

THE QUARTER'S HISTORY



DENMARK

AT THE OPENING of the new session of the Rigsdag on October 3 Prime Minister Hans Hedtoft stated that he did not foresee any relaxation of import controls or any increase in government expenditures. The following day Viggo Kampmann, Minister of Finance, presented his finance bill for 1951/52, which envisaged a surplus of 12.5 million kroner on current receipts and expenditures. The extraordinary defense expenditures of 350 million kroner which were appropriated in August had not been taken into account in the budget. A special defense tax on incomes of over 10,000 kroner was expected to raise 75 million kroner in each of the next two years.

Mr. H. C. Hansen, Minister of Commerce, mentioned the foreign-exchange position. He estimated the deterioration in Denmark's terms of trade since August 1949 to represent 20 per cent, which involves a loss in foreign exchange of about 800 million kroner annually. On the basis of recent estimates, the uncovered foreign-exchange deficit for 1950 was feared to reach almost 500 million kroner. Since the greater part of this deficit was expected to occur in relation to the OEEC-countries, it was to be expected that Denmark would have utilized a substantial part of its "open" quota (i.e. not to be covered by deposits of gold) with the European Payments Union before the end of the year. During

the past three months, the Danish National Bank had already drawn more than 130 million kroner against the Payments Union. In view of this development, the Government found it necessary to save about 400 million kroner in foreign exchange before the end of 1950 through temporary tightening of import controls.

THE QUESTION OF BUTTER rationing came up for a vote in the Folketing on October 25. Commerce Minister H. C. Hansen had made an estimate indicating that the ending of butter rationing would cost the country an extra 185 million kroner in foreign currency. Just the same, a resolution by the Liberals and the Conservatives to the effect that butter rationing should be ended as soon as possible was passed by 69 votes to 57. A Radical resolution, with Government support, which would make it possible for the public to choose freely between butter and margarine, and also would have the whole question studied by a special committee, was defeated.

Having been voted down on such a vital issue the Hedtoft government handed in its resignation on October 26.

A NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT was then formed, on October 28, but this time by the Conservative and Liberal parties which together control just one half of the votes in the Folketing. Erik Eriksen, a Liberal, became the new Prime Minister, while the other 12 cabinet positions were equally divided between the two parties.



THE NEW DANISH CABINET

Front row, l. to r.: H. Hauch, Minister of Agriculture; Ole Bjørn Kraft, Foreign Minister; Erik Eriksen, Prime Minister; Helga Pedersen, Justice; Jens Sønderup, Church. Back row, l. to r.: Ove Weikop, Commerce; Knud Ree, Fisheries; Flemming Hvidberg, Education; Thorkil Kristensen, Finance; Aksel Møller, Interior; Victor Larsen, Communications; Harald Petersen, Defense; Poul Sørensen, Minister of Labor and Social Affairs.

The new cabinet is composed of the following: Thorkil Kristensen, Liberal, Minister of Finance; Ove Weikop, Conservative, Minister of Commerce; Henrik Hauch, Liberal, Minister of Agriculture; Harald Petersen, Liberal, Minister of Defense; Victor Larsen, Conservative, Minister of Labor; Miss Helga Pedersen, Liberal, Minister of Justice; Flemming Hvidberg, Conservative, Minister of Education; Aksel Møller, Conservative, Minister of the Interior; Knud Ree, Liberal, Minister of Fisheries; Poul Sørensen, Conservative, Minister of Labor and Social Affairs; Jens Sønderup, Liberal, Minister

of Church; and Ole Bjørn Kraft, Conservative, Foreign Minister.

REVIEWING THE ECONOMIC situation in the first meeting of the Folketing following the formation of the new cabinet, the Minister of Finance, Mr. Thorkil Kristensen, estimated the foreign-exchange deficit for 1950 at 5-600 million kroner in excess of the funds provided under the European Recovery Program. The deficit may be even larger in 1951—possibly about 800 million kroner.

In order to relieve this situation the government intends to reduce the pur-

chasing power by about 600 million kroner annually by means of compulsory saving, various direct and indirect taxes and economies in current expenditures and governmental construction. These measures are expected to bring about a considerable improvement in the foreign-exchange position. Bills for various direct and indirect taxes, compulsory saving, etc. are at present being considered by Parliament.

The efforts to overcome the foreign-exchange deficit will thus mainly be concentrated on measures of fiscal policy, but in the view of the Government it will be necessary to supplement these measures by certain restrictions on credit facilities. On the other hand extension of the import regulations are not contemplated, and the Government intends to pursue the policy of progressive liberalization of trade.

A NEW DEFENSE COMMISSION has been appointed by the Danish Parliament. It consists of 9 Social Democrats, 5 Liberals, 3 Conservatives and 2 Radical Liberals. Chairman is Minister of Defense Harald Petersen. The Commission is augmented by 10 experts from the Danish Army, Navy and Air Force.

TWO DANISH FISHING CUTTERS, equipped with refrigeration plants and the latest fishing gear, have arrived in western Bengal to teach Indians how to get a richer harvest from the sea. Headed by Harald Fibiger, Danish engineer, 10 Danes will stay at least a year. Fibiger, who has been in both, says monsoons are less dangerous than North Sea gales.

DELEGATIONS WHICH MET in Copenhagen signed a Danish-Italian trade agreement at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs on October 4th, covering the period from October 15, 1950 to October 14, 1951.

Under this agreement there will be no barter transactions between the two countries in the future. However, the agreement contains a clause to the effect that barter transactions which have been approved by the two Governments before October 15th, 1950, may be completed.

For Danish commodities which are subject to Italian import control, quotas have been agreed upon totalling about 47 million kroner, including 10,000 head of cattle, fresh water fish and fish preserves valued at 10 million kroner, machinery and apparatus in an amount of about 8 million kroner, and quotas for a number of other traditional Danish export articles.

For Italian commodities subject to import control in Denmark, quotas for about 68 million kroner have been agreed upon. This figure includes oranges and lemons valued at 5½ million kroner, wine representing about 3 million kroner, yarns about 11 million kroner, piece goods about 21 million kroner, motor cars about 3 million kroner, machinery about 6 million kroner, and quotas for many other traditional Italian export commodities.

KING FREDERIK AND QUEEN INGRID in November visited France as guests of President Vincent Auriol. The visit had been delayed because of the death of King Gustaf of Sweden.

At the French border a special train was put at the disposal of the Royal party, in which was Foreign Minister Ole Bjørn Kraft as representative of the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. President and Mme. Auriol met the train at a station near Le Bois de Boulogne in the early afternoon of Tuesday Nov. 28. The next morning King Frederik and Queen Ingrid laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Elaborate festivities had been arranged by the President and Government of France and the City of Paris.

KING FREDERIK IX has bestowed upon President J. K. Paasikivi of Finland the Knight Cross of the Order of the Elephant. This, the highest Danish decoration, is seldom awarded outside Royalty. It has been given to General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Winston Churchill, and Niels Bohr.

THE ECA ADMINISTRATION has granted Denmark \$325,000 from its "Technical Assistance Fund." The money will be spent for technical equipment to be used for research work within industry and agriculture with a view to support the Danish efforts to increase production. Almost \$100,000 will be placed at the disposal of the Danish College for Engineers whereas the universities of Copenhagen and Aarhus and various other institutions will get smaller grants.

DENMARK'S GREAT WRITER, Johannes V. Jensen, died at his home in Copenhagen on November 25 at the age of 77. He had been ill for some time. He was the third Dane to win the Nobel Prize for literature. It was awarded to him November 9, 1944 for his tril-

ogy *The Long Journey*, in which he glorified the fundamental characteristics of the Nordic people and their historic will to survive. The citation read, "for the rare strength and fertility of his poetic imagination with which is combined an intellectual curiosity of wide scope and a bold, freshly creative style."

The three novels that comprise the trilogy, that has been called "a vast epic of evolution," were published in English translation some 25 years ago; they are *Fire and Ice*, *The Cimbrians*, and *Christopher Columbus*.

Johannes V. Jensen wrote altogether some sixty books, novels, poetry, essays, folk tales, and myths. English translations of his poetry have appeared in "A Book of Danish Verse" and "A Second Book of Danish Verse," published by The American-Scandinavian Foundation, and "The Jutland Wind and Other Verse" (Oxford, 1944).

DENMARK IS 1000 MILLION years old, according to Professor Alfred Rosenkrantz of the Danish Polytechnical College, who says that the geographic history of Denmark dates that far back as determined by recent borings, now 3000 meters deep, compared with previous borings to the depth of only 900 meters.

He estimates that the first evidence of people in Denmark dates some 15,000 to 20,000 years back. At that time people inhabited the central part of Jutland. They did not differ very much from people of our times, the professor thinks. They were not inferior people, like the Neanderthal man.



THE DEFENSE OF ICELAND was very much discussed by the Icelanders during the last quarter of 1950. After their country had played an important role as an allied base during World War II, all military installations were either removed, destroyed or converted at the end of the war. As the Icelanders maintain their tradition of not carrying arms, there is not one coastal battery or a single airplane to defend the island should an aggressor try to occupy it.

With the danger of a new war imminent, the average Icelander wonders how long the Atlantic Pact nations (of whom the Icelanders are one) are going to consider it tenable to leave this strategic island completely undefended. But Iceland joined the Atlantic Pact with the understanding that no military bases would be required in the country in peacetime, and so far nothing has indicated that this position has been changed, neither by the Icelanders nor by the other Pact members.

WHILE 1950 AS A WHOLE was a rather bad year for the Icelandic economy, the last quarter brought some change for the better. The entire trawler fleet, tied up by a strike for four months, started fishing again in November, and for several weeks the word "ocean perch" meant work and money to the Icelanders. It was reported that ocean perch sold at a high price in the United States, while the Icelanders hardly ever fish or eat this

species in spite of (or perhaps because of) its great abundance in Icelandic waters. Now the trawlers brought hundreds of tons of this red fish ashore, while men, women and teen agers were employed to fillet and pack the fish before quick-freezing. When large catches came ashore in the smaller fishing towns, high schools were even closed to enable the students to earn some money for their homes and provide much needed manpower. Such activity is in striking contrast to the sad inactivity of these same towns when the catches fail.

The mysterious herring also turned up during the fall. In the summer season off the north coast it had failed completely, but now large amounts were caught off the southwestern shores. Over 120,000 barrels have been salted, assuring the Swedes and other lovers of this delicacy of abundant supplies until next fall.

THE ICELANDIC LABOR FEDERATION held its biannual congress in November. The election of delegates proved a crushing defeat to the Communists, and they also lost control of the Reykjavík Labor Council. These defeats were primarily caused by an increased awakening by the rank and file of the democratic parties.

Two political parties also held their biannual congresses this fall. The *Framsóknarflokkur* (Progressive Party, based on the Cooperative movement and the farm vote) reelected Minister of Agriculture Hermann Jónasson as Chairman, while the *Alþýðuflokkur* (Social Democrats) reelected former Prime Minister Stefán Jóh. Stefánsson as Chairman.

THOSE INTERESTED in solving crime mysteries might wish they had been in northern Iceland this fall. At the town of Þórshöfn over 100,000 krónur were stolen from a safe during a night when a blizzard effectively cut off the village from the rest of the country. The money and the thief must be among the 500 villagers, but so far the best detective brains in Iceland have failed to find either money or culprit.

THE DELICIOUS PTARMIGAN was on many a Christmas table in Iceland this year after a lively debate about shooting of the small bird. A large block in the Alþing wanted to protect the bird from shooting to prevent extinction, while the ornithologists claimed the bird multiplied and died off in cycles to which shooting made little difference. The Minister of Education, now called the Minister of Ptarmigans by the local wits, decided in favor of the ornithologists, and it will now be seen whether shooting really is decisive in this case.

THE 400TH ANNIVERSARY of the execution of Bishop Jón Arason, the last Catholic bishop of Iceland, was celebrated in November. Since Lutheranism was introduced and more or less enforced by the Danish Crown in the 16th century, Jón Arason is not only a bishop, but even more a National Hero to the Icelanders.

The University of Iceland held a Jón Arason Festival, and articles about him appeared in numerous newspapers and periodicals. A history, "Herra Jón Arason," by Guðbrandur Jónsson, appeared, and finally the Na-

tional Theatre performed Tryggvi Sveinbjörnsson's play "Jón Biskop Arason." The play was badly received by the critics and greatly discussed by the public. The only conclusion that can safely be drawn from the discussion is that while the Icelanders claim to respect the artist's right to mold historic material himself, it is safest not to deviate far from historic facts when dealing with popular personalities in Icelandic history.

THE ICELANDIC MANUSCRIPTS in Denmark were, once more, a topic of discussion during the fall. Several Danes wrote articles in Danish papers supporting the Icelandic point of view about the return of the manuscripts, while other Danes maintained and defended the view against returning the treasures. At the invitation of Danish papers several Icelanders contributed to the discussion, notably Professor Sigurður Nordal, who expressed the Icelandic point of view in an interview with *Extrabladet* and an article for *Nationaltidende*.

While the verdict of a Danish Commission on the subject is awaited, a resolution has been introduced in the Alþing to the effect that the Government shall erect a building for the manuscripts, should they be returned.

A GENERAL CENSUS of the Icelanders was taken on December 1. About 850 tellers participated. The first census in Iceland was made in 1703, when the population was 50,358. During the 18th century it went down about 20%, but has been climbing ever since, and is now about 142,000.



VIEWED AGAINST A background of mounting world tension and anxiety which marked the last three months of 1950, there is possibly no single event during the fourth quarter which has stirred Norwegians more deeply than the visit of Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Ralph Bunche to Oslo in early December. As a representative of the United Nations and mediator of the volatile Palestine conflict, Dr. Bunche's arrival was preceded by more than the usual amount of public interest. His selection by the Norwegian Parliament's Nobel Committee had brought forth an abnormal response in the Norwegian press, and it is doubtful if any previous selection has ever awakened the same degree of public support during the fifty years which this award has been presented. On Sunday, December 10, all available standing room was taken in the Oslo University auditorium when Norwegian Nobel Committee Chairman Gunnar Jahn made the formal presentation on behalf of the Nobel Committee. Hundreds of persons waited outside the building in the cold over-cast to catch a glimpse of the man who has somehow come to symbolize the Norwegian hope of peace through reason. Public response was equally great the following day when he delivered his peace prize address and on Tuesday, December 12, when he spoke to two large gatherings of high-school and college students.

Dr. Bunche's personal triumph was every bit as impressive as his being chosen for this high award. His quiet manner, humor, modesty—and espe-

cially his capacity for talking in terms which people understood almost instinctively—made him one of the most popular Nobel Prize winners ever to visit Norway. As the Oslo daily "Arbeiderbladet" put it: "Dr. Ralph Bunche represents not only a world organization and a major power which today is in the vanguard of humanity's front line, but also a race which demands our recognition and respect if we are to build a world without fear and want. It is difficult to think of a better representative of his organization and his people than Dr. Ralph Bunche."

ON SUNDAY NOVEMBER 19 Crown Prince Olav and Crown Princess Märtha arrived in New York for a short good-will visit, at the invitation of The American-Scandinavian Foundation. Shortly after their arrival the Royal Couple was flown to Washington in President Truman's private plane where events in their honor included luncheons with President Truman and Defense Secretary Marshall, dinners at the Norwegian Embassy and at the home of Joseph E. Davies, and various meetings with the press. In New York the Crown Prince and Princess were guests of honor at the 40th anniversary dinner of The American-Scandinavian Foundation on November 29. That week-end they were guests of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt at her Hyde Park home before their return to Norway by plane on December 4.

DEVELOPMENTS in the Far East have been followed closely by Norwegians, as they have by worried people in nearly every other part of the world. Aware of what the Korean con-

flict can mean in terms of Norway's future, and of how much hinges on a peaceful settlement, public attention has been as avidly centered on news from United Nations headquarters as it has on reports from the fighting front.

Addressing the Norwegian Parliament on Saturday, December 2, Foreign Minister Halvard Lange made it clear that Norway regards the Korean crisis as a part of a larger problem. "We must be allowed to believe," he said, "that no Great Power knowingly and intentionally wishes to start a world war now. But no one can ignore that China is playing a dangerous game with high stakes. And it is more than disturbing that the Soviet Union is defending and morally and politically supporting China's dangerous policy, which from the very beginning supported the North Korean attack. This situation makes the greatest demands on the democratic countries. They must show a firmness which makes it clear that they will not be coerced by threats, but at the same time they must show the world by their conduct that they desire cooperation with the Asiatic countries, and that they will respect these countries' right to choose their form of government for themselves."

Earlier, in a review of Norway's stand regarding European federation, the Foreign Minister reiterated Norway's view, "that cooperation in Europe should be of such a character that it is possible for Great Britain with its strong connections with the Commonwealth to participate." Warning against a European isolationism, he continued, "It is today a fact that

Western Europe can only solve its economic reconstruction and security problems in close cooperation with the United States. There are grounds for asking whether Western Europe has not been outdistanced as an effective economic and military unit even before it has achieved a constitutional form."

UPON HIS RETURN from the Washington meeting of the Atlantic Pact Military Committee in early November, Norwegian Defense Minister Jens G. Hauge noted that Norway's security would be bolstered through German participation in the joint defense of Europe—providing the proper safeguards are taken. "Even if we have our doubts," said the Defense Minister, "about allowing Western Germany to have military units, and even if there is strong emotional opposition to such a development, we can not ignore the fact that it is a question of letting Germans make a contribution to defending their own country, and that Norway would derive clear military advantages." In a press interview following his return, Minister Hauge touched on the question of new military bases in Norway. "The Norwegian authorities," he said, "are of the opinion that only Norwegian forces should be stationed in Norway as long as Norway is not at war or exposed to threat of attack."

In early December, it was announced that while the Government has decided against an extraordinary call-up, it was found inadvisable to release military personnel now serving, who would otherwise be returned to civilian life after completion of their normal service period.

IN MID-NOVEMBER, Norwegian and Danish naval units, with air support, held joint maneuvers in the Skagerak. These maneuvers, which were organized under the Atlantic Pact joint defense program, involved in their first stage the dispatch of a convoy by night from Kristiansand in south Norway to a Danish port. Off Denmark at Skagen, the convoy was attacked by "enemy" destroyers, motor-torpedo boats and jet aircraft, but nevertheless succeeded in reaching port.

ALL OF NORWAY was saddened by news of the death of King Gustaf of Sweden in late October. In an Oslo broadcast shortly after receipt of the news from Stockholm, Norwegian Prime Minister Einar Gerhardsen recalled the late monarch's constant and personal interest in Norway and his contribution toward the improvement of relations between the two Scandinavian lands. "During King Gustaf's long reign," he recalled, "relations between Norway and Sweden were developed by mutual understanding of each country's problems in the political, economic, and social fields, and the cultural relationship has been strongly developed. In a disturbed world, our two countries have not always followed the same course, but we have shown the world that Norway and Sweden can live side by side in peace and tolerance. . . ."

SPEAKING IN MÄLMO, Sweden, in mid-October, Norwegian Prime Minister Einar Gerhardsen reminded critics of Scandinavian cooperation that it is all too easy to dwell on differences and overlook achievements. While it had not been possible to agree on a defense

alliance or to realize a Scandinavian customs union, the Prime Minister pointed to progress made in other fields: to the power export program, where general agreement has now been reached on the transfer of 600 million kwh. of electricity from Norway to Denmark each year; to the cooperation between Scandinavian airlines and fishing authorities; and to close cooperation between Scandinavian representatives to the United Nations and other international bodies. Most significant, however, is progress in the field of social welfare where agreements have been concluded for reciprocal social insurance benefits, and where talks are now in progress aimed at making Scandinavia a single labor market.

REGARDING THE PRESENT STATUS of the power-transfer project, certain light was shed by an interview with Danish Communications Minister Frede Nielsen appearing in the Oslo daily "Morgenbladet" in early October. At that time, the Danish official noted that the question of electricity transfer had still to be approved by the Norwegian and Danish parliaments, and that the matter of obtaining Marshall funds for financing the project had also to be settled. "I believe," Minister Nielsen noted, "that the question of transferring Norwegian power to Denmark is now wholly dependent on whether Marshall Aid will be made available for the project and what conditions will be attached to this aid."

ALL TOWNS IN NORWAY with more than 12,000 inhabitants were instructed in mid-October to complete construction of a number of large air-

raid shelters within the next two years, sufficient to shelter 20% of their populace. Oslo will therefore be required to build shelters for 60,000, Bergen for 20,000, Trondheim for 12,000 and Stavanger for 9,000 persons. Construction of a large underground shelter in the center of Oslo was scheduled to begin in early January. In peace-time, the shelter will be used as a subterranean parking lot with room for 120 vehicles.

DETAILS OF THE NORWEGIAN-SOVIET border agreement made public in late November included a number of stipulations regarding what Norwegians living in the border area may or may not do. No person, for example, is permitted to be in possession of a camera within 1000 yards of the frontier. It is forbidden to cross the frontier by land, water, or air without special permission from the Norwegian frontier commissioner. It is further forbidden, without special permission, to carry on conversations or to fraternize in others ways with persons on the other side of the frontier. Vessels plying frontier rivers will be permitted, however, to follow the main channel, even though this might deviate from the fixed boundary.

FOLLOWING FOUR DAYS of negotiations in late October, representatives of Norway's main employer and employee organizations—the Norwegian Employers' Association and the Norwegian Federation of Trade Unions—agreed on wage increases which would give an additional 18 øre per hour to adult workers and 9 øre more per hour to apprentices. The meetings were held under the chairmanship of Prime Min-

ister Gerhardsen, and were necessitated by the rising cost of living following cuts in subsidies early in 1950. The agreement, which will continue till 1952, contains provisions for further increases should the cost of living index have risen by 5 points by March 15, 1951. Raises would be on the basis of 2.6 and 1.8 øre per index point. Press comment generally agreed that while the settlement does assure a period of continuing industrial peace, it nevertheless means increased inflationary pressure leading to two alternatives: increased production or eventually increased prices.

SPEAKING IN PARIS before the OEEC Council of Ministers in early October, Norwegian Trade Minister Erik Brofoss voiced strong doubts regarding the wisdom of continuing to free imports at the present time. While Norway had made no reservations regarding the Council's agreement to free 75% of the participating countries' imports, Minister Brofoss pointed out that this extension of free lists would mean an increased demand for goods and services at a time when manpower is being diverted from production to defense. It was conceivable, he said, that in 1951 or 1952, the countries might have to appropriate up to 15% of their national incomes for defense purposes. By including Germany, Belgium, and Switzerland on her free lists, the proportion of total Norwegian private imports from participating lands has been increased from 53% to 60.9%.

TRANSPORT MINISTERS of Denmark, Norway and Sweden meeting in Oslo

on Wednesday, November 8, reached full agreement on merging the three Scandinavian airlines into a joint consortium. In their communiqué issued at the close of the meeting, the ministers noted that the new organization will be in a position to compete in the international air transport field much more effectively than would three separate national airlines. "Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS)," it continues, "will form a natural part of the Scandinavian economic cooperation which the Scandinavian Governments have supported ever since the war." The agreement will have to be submitted to the parliaments of the three participating countries.

THE SENDING of Norwegian Christmas trees to foreign lands as a symbol of friendship has broadened this year, with various cities and organizations sending their 50-foot good-will emblems to communities in England, Scotland, and Iceland. Oslo, as in years past, sent a "Trafalgar Square Tree" to London, while Bergen sent its good-will tree to Newcastle. Other Norwegian trees were sent as gifts to Reykjavik, Glasgow, and Hull.

Christmas was celebrated in Norway this year with the blessing of nearly idyllic weather conditions. Unusually early snows had decked most of the country in a covering of white which in eastern Norway was accentuated by a Christmas day of golden winter sunshine. The reappearance of the sun following weeks of dark overcast, during which—in the capital at any rate—hardly a ray of sunlight ever penetrated, was as welcome a Christmas present as Osloites could ever hope for.



THE LONG REIGN of King Gustaf V, the longest in Sweden's history, ended on Sunday, October 29. The king died at the Drottningholm Palace near Stockholm after a bronchial catarrh, which had afflicted him for some years, had taken a turn for the worse.

A few minutes after the king's death the bells in the Drottningholm chapel began to toll. It was the first sound that broke the silence of the cold, drizzly Sunday morning. The flag on the palace was lowered to half staff, and the Earl Marshal of the Realm issued the official statement which was broadcast to every corner of the land. "Royal mourning," it said, "descends over the country. Warm and deeply felt is our gratitude for the royal deeds of the Landsfather, marked as they were by chivalry, wisdom, and unfailing devotion to duty." All flags were lowered, and mourning services were conducted in churches all over the country. In Stockholm a naval battery near the Royal Palace boomed eighty-four salvos: forty-two signalling the death of King Gustaf, and forty-two saluting the new king.

On October 30 Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf in the council chamber of the Royal Palace was sworn in as King Gustaf VI Adolf. He announced that his motto will be "Duty Above All," and pledged himself to adhere strictly to the Constitution and to rule "as a righteous King and gracious father of the Swedish people by a legal, just, and mild government." The oath was read to him by Social Democratic

Prime Minister Tage Erlander in the presence of members of the Cabinet. According to tradition, Mr. Erlander formally tendered his government's resignation and the King, in turn, requested the cabinet to remain in office.

On November 9 King Gustaf V was buried in the Riddarholm Church. Every royal house in Europe was represented, headed by the oldest reigning monarch, King Haakon VII of Norway, who walked with King Frederik of Denmark and President Paasikivi of Finland in the funeral procession. Hundreds of thousands of spectators lined the route from the Royal Palace to the church. A heavy November sky brooded over the capital, and in the morning there were snow flurries. As the royal casket was carried into the church, however, the clouds parted and a pale winter sun shone briefly.

KING GUSTAF VI ADOLF has a better firsthand knowledge of the United States than most other chiefs of state in Europe. His first visit was in 1926, when, after attending the unveiling of a monument to John Ericsson in Potomac Park, Washington, D.C., as a guest of President Coolidge, he and his wife, now Queen Louise, traveled from New York to San Francisco, with many intermediary stops. The second tour was made in connection with the observance of the New Sweden Tercentenary in 1938, which was celebrated in Delaware, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, but also brought Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf to New York, New England, and several of the Midwestern states. In a farewell address, he said of the Swedish and American people: "We are united in a common belief in the ideals of law and order,

of democracy and justice, of peace and good will among all nations of the world."

An outstanding athlete in his youth, Gustaf Adolf was for many years president of the Athletic Association of Sweden and of the Swedish Skiing Association. His other interests include archaeology, and he has participated in scientific expeditions to many foreign lands, such as Greece, Egypt, and China. He is the owner of one of the largest private collections of Oriental ceramics in the world. Extremely simple and modest in his personal habits, the King has until now lived the life of a well-to-do scientist or a country squire, except, of course, when official functions intervened. He was married twice, first in 1905 to the British Princess Margaret of Connaught, who died in 1920, and then in 1923 to Lady Louise Mountbatten, a sister of Earl Mountbatten of Burma and, like the late Crown Princess Margaret, a great granddaughter of Queen Victoria of England.

SPEAKING to the Political and Security Committee of the U.N. General Assembly on October 12, Foreign Minister Östen Undén gave his support to the American plan to strengthen the General Assembly as an instrument of peace. Under the American plan, which was sponsored by seven nations, the Assembly will take over the duties of the Security Council when the work of the Council becomes paralyzed by the veto, and the Assembly will have the authority to recommend the use of force for coercive actions. Mr. Undén admitted that the constitutionality of the General Assembly's recommending the use of force is open to discussion.

but he added that practice actually has by-passed a literal interpretation of the Charter. Like any other written constitution, he said, the Charter must develop organically in order not to become a dead letter.

Regarding the provision for earmarking national military contingents for United Nations duty, Mr. Undén pointed out that Swedish laws expressly forbid the use of Swedish troops outside the country's borders except for defense purposes, and that this proposal therefore raises the question of a revision of these laws. It obviously has not been possible to discuss such a revision in due constitutional course, and the Swedish Government consequently is obliged to abstain from voting on this particular issue. Mr. Undén added that this attitude does not mean that Sweden is opposed to this part of the seven-power resolution.

AT THE OPENING of the fall session of the Riksdag on October 17, the Government introduced a number of bills aiming at stepping up the country's rearmament. The requests for new appropriations virtually followed the blueprint that the Government, leaders of the four principal parties and the Military Command agreed upon last September. A total of 71 million kronor was requested for new materiel, the construction of airfields and an extended voluntary training of reserve officers. A bill for 45 million kronor for civilian defense needs was introduced, while the Government wanted four millions for additional military hospitals and one million for measures that would make the police better prepared to prevent espionage

and sabotage. The costs of the Swedish Red Cross hospital in Korea were tentatively estimated at 10 million kronor.

In an introduction to the main defense bill Prime Minister Tage Erlander recalled that during the last few years one country after another had been forced to step up its rearmament and strengthen its military preparedness. After the outbreak of the war in Korea this pace was further accelerated, not the least in countries which are Sweden's neighbors. For most of the European nations this rearmament obviously will entail very heavy burdens. Sweden, the Prime Minister added, is in a somewhat more advantageous position in so far as it has been able to maintain and systematically develop the defense organization that was built up during the Second World War.

TEN MILLION TONS of clay and earth, loosened by recent heavy rains, early in the morning of September 29 caused a landslide that did great damage to the small industrial town of Surte, on the Göta River some ten miles north of Gothenburg on Sweden's west coast. Only one person was killed, but seventy-five were injured and more than three hundred made homeless when almost forty houses were hurled into the river. Others were split in two, or settled on their sides. Fire brigades, troops, ambulance crews, and Red Cross personnel from nearby cities, aided by bulldozers, worked to clear the rubble and help the victims out of their dwellings. The loss in building property alone is estimated at about three million kronor. Communications throughout the area were paralyzed,

and shipping on the Göta River was halted by the avalanche that clogged the important waterway.

THE BANK OF SWEDEN has raised its discount rate from two and a half to three per cent in order to "equalize tensions on the money market and bring about a balance in the structure of interest rates." The commercial banks and the savings banks followed suit, and the Cooperative Union also decided to increase its interest rate as from the beginning of the new year.

DR. INGVAR ANDERSSON, noted historian and since 1949 Archivist of the Realm, has been elected one of the eighteen members of the Swedish Academy, which awards the Nobel Prize in literature. He succeeds the late Professor Martin Lamm, whose field was the history of literature.

Dr. Andersson was born in 1899 in the southernmost Swedish province of Skåne. He has served as assistant professor at the University of Lund and has also been head of the lecture department of the Swedish Broadcasting Company. His literary production includes penetrating studies of the history of the Middle Ages and of the Vasa era in Sweden. To the general public he is better known as the author of a one-volume survey of Swedish history, a biography of King Erik XIV, son of Gustav Vasa, and a history of Skåne.

HJÄLTA POWER STATION, located on a tributary of the Ångerman River, one of Sweden's mightiest waterways, in the northeastern province of Ångermanland, was completed last fall. It is Sweden's third largest plant of its

kind and has cost about 100 million kronor, or \$20 million. The engine room, the generators, and the turbines are placed in a subterranean hall, blasted out of the solid rock, and though the control room is located above ground, there is a faithful copy of it deep down in the mountain. From the turbine pistons the water is led through a tunnel which is Europe's biggest, both in regard to length and circumference—its length is 18,400 feet, and it could easily accommodate four-story houses. This plant will now generate five per cent of all Sweden's production of electric power, and in a few years the capacity will be increased further so that the production will reach 1,000 million kilowatt hours annually.

JUSTICE EMIL SANDSTRÖM, internationally known jurist and president of the Swedish Red Cross, on October 19 was elected chairman of the League of Red Cross Societies for the next two years. The choice was made by the board of governors of the fifty-four nation league at their meeting in Monte Carlo. He succeeds Basil O'Connor of the United States, who has held the post since 1945.

Born in 1886, Justice Sandström was chairman of the Labor Court in Stockholm 1929-31, and then he served as Supreme Court Justice during two periods, 1931-33 and 1935-43. From 1918 to 1926 he had been a member of the Mixed Court in Egypt. In 1943-46 he was chairman of a committee appointed by the International Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross for relief work in Greece, and in 1947 he was head of the United Nations Commission for Palestine. Since 1946 he has

been a member of the International Court of Arbitration in the Hague.

ON OCTOBER 26, the 1950 Nobel Prize in Medicine and Physiology was awarded by the Caroline Institute jointly to two Americans and one Swiss. Winners are Mayo Clinic physician Dr. Philip S. Hench; his colleague at Rochester, Minnesota, biochemist Dr. T. Edward Kendall, and Professor Tadeus Reichstein, of Basle, Switzerland, who is Dr. Hench's fellow research worker in the field of suprarenal cortex hormones. The joint citation for the three scientists reads: "For their discoveries concerning suprarenal cortex hormones, their structures and biological effects." Dr. Kendall, who is sixty-four, heads the department of Biochemistry at the Mayo Clinic. He discovered throxin, the active substance of the thyroid gland. Dr. Hench, a native of Pittsburgh, joined the Mayo Clinic in 1914. Dr. Reichstein, who was born in Poland, became a naturalized citizen of Switzerland in 1914.

Five Nobel Prize winners were named on November 10, two by the Swedish Academy and three by the Swedish Academy of Science. The 1949 literary prize, withheld last year, went to the American novelist William Faulkner, while this year's award was given to Bertrand Russell, British philosopher, mathematician, and moralist. The 1950 physics prize went to Professor Cecil F. Powell, cosmic ray scientist of the University of Bristol, England, in recognition of his development of a photographic method to probe the secrets of the atom nucleus, and his discoveries regarding the mes-

ons, elementary particles which hold the atoms together. A German teacher-pupil team, Professor Otto Diels, of Kiel, and Professor Kurt Adler, of Cologne, received the 1950 chemistry prize for joint work in 1927-28 on the discovery of the Dien synthesis, a method by which odors and complicated chemical compounds can be produced artificially.

A SWEDISH INSTRUMENT of very great importance for heart diagnosis was demonstrated at a medical conference in Stockholm in December. The first of its kind in the world, it was constructed by Dr. Å. Gidlund of the St. Erik Hospital in Stockholm.

The new instrument measures accurately the blood pressure in the left auricle of the heart, and is thus able to indicate the difficult ventricle irregularities called mitral stenosis, which is often the result of rheumatoid arthritis. The instrument is so sensitive that even the smallest variations in pressure are registered simultaneously with the electro-cardiogram and the phono-cardiogram which gives the "tune" of the heart.

Sweden's internationally famous cardiac expert, Dr. Clarence Crafoord, has now begun performing operations to cure cases of mitral stenosis, using Dr. Gidlund's new apparatus for preparatory examinations.

FIVE GIANT RADAR REFLECTORS, each weighing 17 tons, are the latest additions to the radio-astronomy institution of Chalmer's Technical Institute of Gothenburg. The reflectors will be used for research into cosmic radiation produced long before our time.

THE AMERICAN SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION

*For better intellectual relations between the American and Scandinavian peoples,
by means of interchange of students, publications, and a Bureau of Information*

ESTABLISHED BY NIELS POULSON, IN 1911

Trustees: Henry Goddard Leach, Honorary President; Lithgow Osborne, President; Harold S. Deming, Nils R. Johaneson, Frederic Schaefer, Harold C. Urey, Georg Unger Vetlesen, Vice Presidents; Hans Christian Sonne, Treasurer; Conrad Bergendoff, Robert Woods Bliss, Clifford Nickels Carver, James Creese, Robert Herndon Fife, Halldór Hermannsson, Hamilton Holt, Edwin O. Holter, Fred Johnson, Vilas Johnson, A. Sonnin Krebs, William W. Lawrence, G. Hilmer Lundbeck, Jr., John M. Morehead, Ray Morris, Kenneth Ballard Murdock, J. A. O. Preus, Leif J. Sverdrup, Thomas J. Watson, Gustaf Wedell. **Affiliates:** **Sweden**—Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen, Greturegatan 16, Stockholm, J. S. Edström, President; Robert Ljunglöf, Östen Undén, and The Svedberg, Vice Presidents; Adèle Heilborn, Director; **Denmark**—Danmark-Amerika Fondet, Nytorv 9, Copenhagen K, Viggo Carstensen, President; Mrs. Annette Dalgas Jerrild, Secretary; Helge Petersen, L. Thulstrup, Vice Presidents; Tage Langebæk, Treasurer; **Norway**—Norge-Amerika Foreningen, Ingeniørenes Hus, Kronprinsensgate 17, Oslo, Hans T. Nielsen, President; H. O. Christoffersen, Vice President; Birger Olafsen, Secretary; Grethe Borchgrevink, Student Director; **Iceland**—Íslensk-Ameríkska Félagið, Sambandshúsini, Reykjavik, Vilhjalmur Thor, President; Benedikt Gröndal, Secretary. **Associates:** All who are in sympathy with the aims of the Foundation are invited to become Associates. **Regular Associates**, paying \$5.00 annually, receive the REVIEW. **Sustaining Associates**, paying \$12.00 annually, receive the REVIEW and Books. **Annual Sponsors**, paying \$100.00 and **Life Associates**, paying \$1,000.00 once for all, receive all publications.

The Scandinavian Music Center

A Scandinavian Music Center of scores, records, and literature was established at The Foundation at the beginning of this year. The purpose of the new Center will be to make Scandinavian music more widely known in America, and also to make Scandinavian records and scores more easily available for conductors, artists, and listeners. This new activity represents yet another step taken by The Foundation toward increasing the knowledge of Scandinavian culture throughout the United States.

The director of the Music Center is David Hall, an authority on recorded music, and the author of "Records 1950." He was the founder and editor of "The Record Review" and also served as editor of "The Review of Recorded Music." He is a member of the Panel on Recorded Music, U.S. State Department UNESCO Commission.

One of the first projects of the newly established Center was the American trip of Mr. Erik Tuxen, conductor of the Danish State Radio Symphony Orchestra. He was a guest conductor with a number of symphony orchestras while in the U.S., among them the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington on January 3. Mr. Tuxen last year received wide acclaim as the result of his conducting the Fifth Symphony of Carl Nielsen at the Edinburgh International Festival of Music and Drama.

On April 2 The Foundation will arrange an Evening of Scandinavian Music in Carnegie Hall in New York. The Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra, led by Eugene Ormandy, will play Danish, Finnish, Norwegian, and Swedish music, with Erik Tuxen guest conducting the Danish part of the program—Carl Nielsen's Fifth Symphony, Jean Sibelius' Seventh Symphony, Rangström's King Erik's Songs,

with Set Svanholm as soloist, and Grieg's Piano Concerto are also on the program.—The four Scandinavian ASCAP's: KODA, STIM, TEOSTO, and TONO, are cooperating enthusiastically with The Foundation, with Tage Palm of the ASF Music Center being the prime mover of the arrangement.

Trustees

HENRY GODDARD LEACH has been elected an honorary member of the Academy of Letters in Iceland (*Bókmentafjelagsin*).

G. HILMER LUNDBECK JR. celebrated his fiftieth birthday on December 1. He was the guest of honor at a dinner at the Union Club, New York, attended by about 70 of his friends and business associates. Among the many gifts was an antique silver punch bowl with hand-printed scroll, presented by a number of his friends. The dinner closed with a private screening of the new Edgar Bergen film "Charlie McCarthy and Mortimer Snerd in Sweden."

JOHN MOTLEY MOREHEAD represented The Foundation at the inauguration of Gordon Gray as President of the University of North Carolina in October. The ceremonies, three in number, covered one day each at the three branches of the University—Greensboro, Chapel Hill, and Raleigh.

Fortieth Anniversary Dinner

The Fortieth Anniversary of The Foundation was celebrated at a dinner given at the Starlight Roof of the Waldorf-Astoria in New York on November 29. The guests of honor were Crown Prince Olav and Crown Princess



JOHN MOTLEY MOREHEAD

Märtha of Norway. The speech of the Crown Prince appears elsewhere in this issue.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt told of her recent Scandinavian trip and paid a tribute to the nations of the North. Edward W. Barrett, Assistant Secretary of State and chief of the "Voice of America," spoke about educational interchange and its value to the world at the present time. "I am heartened to witness the enthusiasm with which The American-Scandinavian Foundation is accepting its share of the great challenge to free peoples everywhere. Only by enthusiastically increasing world-wide understanding of the kind engendered by your Foundation can we hope to win out. This is the way of freedom."



Swedish American Line

Fortieth Anniversary Display in the Window of the Swedish American Line Offices in New York

Dr. Hamilton Holt, President Emeritus of Rollins College and only living Charter Trustee of The Foundation, in his informal speech dwelt on incidents and personalities of the past. Miss Blanche Thebom of the Metropolitan Opera Company was the evening's soloist; Mr. Lithgow Osborne, President of The Foundation, acted as Chairman, and Mr. Thomas Watson functioned as Master of Ceremonies at the distinguished gathering, which numbered around 700 guests.

Norwegian Evening

The New School for Social Research, Normannsforbundet's New York Chapter and The American-Scandinavian Foundation cooperated in arranging a Norwegian Evening in the auditorium of the New School on December 2.

The guest of honor and the main speaker was Dr. Francis Bull, Professor of Scandinavian Literature at the University of Oslo. His lecture on "Main Currents of Norwegian Drama and Literature" combined wit, sparkle, and erudition. Herman Wildenvey, perhaps Norway's greatest living poet, read some of his poems in Norwegian and then in English translation. Dr. Alvin Johnson and Dr. Henry Goddard Leach gave the opening and closing addresses respectively. The Norwegian Singing Society and the Norwegian Folk Dancing Society, both of Brooklyn, contributed to making the evening a festive one.

Christmas Party

On December 20th, the Student Division gave its annual Christmas punch



THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY DINNER AT THE WALDORF-ASTORIA

*L. to r.: Crown Princess Märtha, Crown Prince Olav,
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Thomas Watson*

party for all Scandinavian students and trainees in the New York Area. This was a sort of "house warming" for The Foundation's new quarters, and was a great success in all ways. There were about 150 guests in all, and The Foundation's walls were literally bulging. In previous years, the Christmas party has been held at the China Institute.

Íslensk-ameríkska félagið

1950 was beyond doubt the year of greatest activity in the history of the ÍAF. The group sponsored social gatherings, publications, scholarships,

traineeships and special events. At informal gatherings, held several times during the year, prominent speakers appeared, films were shown, musicians entertained and a novel feature was introduced, namely, book-auctioning, which proved both entertaining, profitable to the Society (as the books are donated to it) and gave those attending an opportunity to bid for American books which are hard to come by in Iceland.

The ÍAF has been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Hannes Jónsson, who manages its office at Sambandshúsið, Reykjavík.

The IAF has published its first pamphlet with information about the Foundation and its affiliates, American universities, scholarships, etc.

Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen

Miss MAUD EKMAN, Secretary of our sister organization in Sweden, Sverige-Amerika Stiftelsen, paid a visit to New York recently on the occasion of The Foundation's 40th Anniversary Dinner.

The Canadian-Scandinavian Foundation

A foundation has been chartered in Ottawa to sponsor the intellectual relations between Canada and Scandinavia. This foundation parallels The American-Scandinavian Foundation. It has already invited memberships and established relations with the Sweden-America Foundation. The publications of The American-Scandinavian Foundation are widely distributed in Canada, but, according to its charter, our foundation does not administer Canadian travelling fellowships, so that a Canadian organization is necessary. As it obtains funds the Canadian foundation will begin by administering a few fellowships in the initial years.

The preliminary work of organization has been directed by an old friend of our foundation, the Norwegian-American H. C. Walby of Montreal, representative of the Swedish steel industry Sandviken on this continent. The first President is Robson Black of Montreal, former chairman of the Canadian Forestry Association. The address of the Foundation is 426 McGill Street, Montreal 1, Quebec, Canada. It is hoped that each province of Canada will be represented by a trustee

and that the Governor General will be Honorary Chairman.

American Fellows in Scandinavia

DONALD JOHN BLAKE, holder of a King Gustaf V Fellowship and student at the Graduate School for English Speaking Students, University of Stockholm, reports that he is "beginning to distinguish the outlines of the forest from the profusion of trees." He has plunged into his researches on the development of the Swedish trade union movement and is making satisfactory progress.

RAYMOND E. LINDGREN, also the holder of a King Gustaf V Fellowship, adds some personal observations on the state of the Norwegian economy to his report on his research. He is studying the dissolution of the union between Norway and Sweden and has already completed a survey of Norwegian newspapers for the years 1903-05. The entire Lindgren family, down to the youngest of their three children, is also doing some serious skiing on the slopes of Frognerstolen.

CONSTANCE ODDEN, the Carol and Hans Christian Sonne Fellow, writes at great length and enthusiastically of her work in the Serum Institute of Copenhagen. Apparently, the Institute is a miniature United Nations, with students from many different nations engaged in research there. Miss Odden has had the opportunity of visiting many parts of Denmark and has also journeyed briefly into Sweden. On Hallowe'en she and some other Americans gave a party, complete with paper hats, for Danish and Swedish friends, and reports that it was a huge success.



Swedish American Line

ALL ABOARD FOR STOCKHOLM!

A group of American students sailing on the M/S "Stockholm" on September 2, 1950 to attend the Graduate School for English Speaking Students at the University of Stockholm

JOHN SYDOW JR., Gustaf V Fellow, writes that his most vivid impression since coming to Sweden is of the Court Theatre at Drottningholm, preserved in its original state since the late 18th century. He has been attending rehearsals at the Royal Dramatic Theatre, and reports that frantic and temperamental conduct is conspicuous by its nearly total absence.

O. LEROY KARLSTROM, another of this year's Gustaf V Fellows, confesses to having been "bitten by the Scandinavian 'bug.'" He also admits having made a speech in Swedish—and to sharing a lecture platform with the then Crown Prince!—on the occasion of the Swedish-American day celebration at Skansen, near Stockholm. His

work on a thesis on Scandinavian unity is progressing well, and in support of this comes the announcement that Mr. Karlstrom is engaged to marry a Swedish girl. Seldom has one of The Foundation's fellows done so much to promote Scandinavian-American relations!

ROBERT W. HOLMES, holder of a Former Fellows scholarship, is deeply engrossed in his research on marine phytoplankton. He is using material gathered in the Davis Strait by a United Nations weather ship, and reports that the training he is receiving exceeds his wildest expectations. He and Mrs. Holmes have an apartment in Oslo and are making fine strides toward learning the Norwegian language.

Augustana Chapter

The fall meeting of the Augustana Chapter of The American-Scandinavian Foundation was held at Augustana College on Wednesday evening, November 8. At that time Mr. Vilas Johnson, a trustee of The Foundation and president of the Swedish Pioneer Historical Society, gave an address, speaking on our present relationship with the Scandinavian countries. A social hour and refreshments followed the program.

Boston Chapter

The 1950-51 season of The American-Scandinavian Forum of Greater Boston opened September 29 at Phillips Brooks House, Harvard University, with the showing of colored slides of Denmark taken by Dr. Elisabeth Deichmann on her recent trip to Europe. A business meeting followed, together with the election of the following slate of officers for 1950-51: President, Mr. Reinhold L. Swan; Vice President, Dr. Elisabeth Deichmann; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Eva L. Stromwall; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Reinhold L. Swan; Treasurer, Miss Esther L. Gustafson. Refreshments and a social hour followed.

October 26, the Forum was honored by having as its guest speaker His Excellency Henrik de Kauffmann, Danish Ambassador to the United States, who gave an interesting lecture on "Scandinavia's Place in the World Today." His Excellency had come to Harvard to open officially the exhibition at the Houghton Library depicting one hundred and fifty years of Danish-American diplomatic relations. The Harvard Glee Club directed by Professor Wallace Woodworth rendered a number of

selections, including the Danish national anthem sung in Danish. This meeting was held in the auditorium of Fogg Art Museum, Harvard, and was open to the public.

November 24, the program was "A Scandinavian Journey" by narration and color film given by Senator Philip G. Bowker of Brookline. The lecture was preceded by the group singing of Christmas carols led by our President R. L. Swan, with Miss Louise Larsen at the piano. The usual social hour with refreshments brought the evening to a close.

December 29, the schedule called for a showing of two sound films: "Christmas in Scandinavia" and "Meet the Swedes."

Chicago Chapter

On September 8 the Chicago Chapter, in association with the United Nations Association of Greater Chicago, The Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, The Chicago Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Library of International Relations, sponsored a public meeting addressed by the Honorable Trygve Lie, Secretary General of the United Nations. A capacity crowd of 2,500 in the Grand Ballroom of the Stevens heard his major speech on the problems before the United Nations. The speech was later printed in the Congressional Record as a "Report on the U.N." for national distribution by the sponsoring organizations.

The Norwegian Foreign Minister and Mrs. Halvard Lange were guests of honor at a reception held by the Chapter at the Racquet Club on October 5. Mr. Lange spoke on the urgency of international understanding

in the building for peace and of the valuable role of such organizations as The Foundation in this field of endeavour.

Professor Francis Bull of the University of Oslo was the Chicago Chapter's guest speaker at a luncheon meeting given in his honor October 9 at the University Club. His brilliant, charming picture of Norwegian Theatre Life held his listeners enthralled.

On November 3 the Scandinavian students and trainees in the Chicago area, which now number 81, were entertained by the staff at a "get-acquainted" Sherry Party in the Lounge of The Foundation's headquarters.

On December 15 the Chicago Chapter gave its annual Christmas Glögg Party at the University Club, at which the Scandinavian students and trainees were guests of honor.

Minnesota Chapter

The first meeting of the 1950-51 season was held at Augsburg College in Minneapolis on October 25. Guest of honor and speaker of the evening was Dr. Henry Goddard Leach. Dr. Sahlin, chapter secretary, presided. The program opened with the showing of two Swedish films. Dr. Leach spoke informally about The Foundation and its work. A social hour followed with refreshments and animated conversation.

The major achievement of the Chapter last year was the establishment of no less than nine scholarships for Scandinavian students at the following Minnesota colleges: Augsburg College, Carleton College, Concordia College, Gustavus Adolphus College, Hamline University, Macalester College, St. Olaf College, College of St. Catherine, and College of St. Thomas.

According to this plan, developed and executed by Dr. Donald J. Cowlings, President of the Chapter, each of the colleges will be paid \$500.00 by the Chapter. Each college provides board, room, tuition, all fees, and a book allowance of \$25.00. Obviously the colleges participating in this plan have actually granted scholarships to the students worth as much or more than the Chapter scholarships.

Scandinavian students have been placed as follows:

Lutheran Colleges

Augsburg, Rolf Schonberg, Finland; Concordia, Sigrid Bunkholt, Norway; Gustavus Adolphus, Yngve Thorberg, Sweden; St. Olaf, Elisabeth Holm, Norway.

Catholic Colleges

College of St. Catherine, Ruth Hansson, Denmark; St. Thomas, Sven Bjerke, Norway.

Congregational, Baptist, and Episcopal

Carleton, Inga-Stina Ekeblad, Sweden.

Methodist

Hamline University, Ole Jensen, Denmark.

The efforts of the Chapter to further the trainee exchange have also made progress, thanks to the continued and devoted work of Mr. H. H. Burgess. Mrs. Gudrun Lassen has been accepted as a trainee at General Mills. Tore Gram has been accepted at Ellerbe & Co., architects. Both are from Norway.

New York Chapter

The November 1 social meeting, at which the American Ambassador to

Norway, His Excellency Charles U. Bay, was to speak, was cancelled in deference to the death of King Gustaf V of Sweden.

December 15, the Chapter held its annual Christmas Party at Sherry's. The very original decorations in greens and whites by Mrs. Albert Van Sand spread a festive halo over the ballroom. The brief, salty introductions by Göran Holmquist, Chapter President, did not delay the festivities. The lovely Swedish Lucia, Miss Vivian Holmlien and her candles were ushered in by two tiny tots, daughters of Mrs. Myron Hammond. The Danish folk dancers from Newark performed with their simple grace and controlled classic abandon. A popular note of novelty was introduced by the singer Bo Sundblad, from Sweden, who mounted a chair with his mandolin and twanged informal and humorous arias. The young people attended the fête in large numbers and danced their hambos well after midnight.

Santa Barbara Chapter

September 25, the Chapter met in the home of Mrs. S. O. Weiner with many college professors and visiting students attending. Professor E. E. Ericson of the California Fulbright Committee explained the Fulbright Fellowships, and Miss Ingeborg Praetorius told of her trip to Denmark. City Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Einar Jacobsen and Mrs. Jacobsen also attended.

November 14, at El Mirasol Hotel, members and friends of The Foundation heard Dr. Cornelius H. Muller, Associate Professor of Botany at the University of California, Santa Barbara College, speak on his trip to Scandinavia this past summer. He had attended an international gathering of botanists. Miss Nancy May gave a charming talk on her trip through Denmark by way of the Youth Hostels and her travels in Norway and Sweden, including a trip on the Göta Canal. She illustrated her talk with beautiful colored slides. In the absence of the President, Mr. Fred Wessel, our Vice President, Mrs. John Hader, presided.

December 17, the Chapter held a pre-holiday Smörgåsbord supper party for members at the home of Miss Ingeborg Praetorius. There were Christmas carols and descriptions of Yuletide customs in Scandinavia.

Southern California Chapter

Mrs. Birger Tinglof, 681 South Amalfi Drive, Pacific Palisades, California, has succeeded Mrs. Grace A. Somerby as Secretary of the Chapter. The Chapter has come to life again and plans monthly meetings addressed by distinguished visitors from Scandinavia, and where students from the Northern nations will be introduced. Members are urged to give Mrs. Tinglof information about Scandinavian students and visitors in the Southern California area.



Seven One-Act Plays by Holberg. Translated by Henry Alexander. Princeton University Press for The American-Scandinavian Foundation. 1950. 204 pp. Price \$3.50.

This collection of Ludvig Holberg's one-act plays, translated from the Danish by Professor Henry Alexander, will bring many hours of solid entertainment to lovers of good comedy. It is one of those volumes which just cannot be put down until the last line is read. The easy, witty dialogue and the rapidity of action keep the reader completely engrossed. Svend Kragh-Jacobsen says in his informative introduction that the author never had to blot a line.

Most of the seven plays are social comedies or comedies of manners, satirizing the customs and foibles of the time. By far the best of these is "The Christmas Party." Holberg pokes fun at the old Danish custom of Christmas games and masquerades in this satirical gem. The plot is woven around the attempts of a young woman, the mother of six children, to carry on a love affair with a handsome neighbor, despite the suspicions of her old, somewhat foolish husband. The characterization in this play is perfect. We have Jeronimus, the old, superstitious, stubbornly conservative merchant who is putty in the hands of his wife, the flighty Leonora; we have Magdalene, Jeronimus' sister, who is equally superstitious and equally conservative, but loyal to her brother; and we have a number of secondary characters—Arv, the naïve peasant, Pernille, the helpful young maid, the grandiloquent, black-robed schoolmaster, and finally, the love-sick neighbor.

The plot hinges on the paganistic rituals and ceremonies of the Christmas games during which Leonora and her lover plan to meet secretly. The tempo and the excitement increase steadily as the preparations for the party are made and the conspirators work out their plot. The catastrophe occurs when Jeronimus, against a background of color, music, and gay confusion, learns what is going on and starts a minor riot. At this climactic point the police come in and haul them all away. The curtain falls abruptly, and the audience is left laughing. Holberg makes no mention of what will come later. He saw that any further action would only be anticlimactic and would lessen the effect of the comedy. As it is, the action stops at the peak of excitement and hilarity.

"The Talkative Barber" is a comedy of character. The story concerns the trials and

tribulations of Gert Westphaler, a barber-surgeon with a weakness for talking too much. His marriage to Leonora has been arranged by their parents, but Gert delays the wedding, because he repeatedly fails to go through the formality of proposing to the girl. Every time he tries, some one innocently mentions something which leads him into a talking jag. During his monologues on one of his four favorite topics, he forgets all about proposing, much to the disgust of his mother, the girl, and her father. This happens once too often. In the midst of a lengthy harangue on the intricacies of English politics, Leonora marries another suitor. Poor, dumbfounded Gert swears he will leave town and go some place "where people respect learning."

"The Arabian Powder" satirizes the "science" of alchemy and those who seriously practice it. Here we meet the villain Oldfox, one of Holberg's most charming characters. He bears a strange similarity to another famous rogue, Sir John Falstaff. Oldfox holds mankind in utter contempt and very cheerfully goes about cheating and swindling people. His victim this time is Polidor, a man who has spent most of his life and fortune trying to make gold. Oldfox's job is made easy because, as Holberg seems to point out, men like Polidor are foolish and gullible to begin with. This is a rather ordinary comedy of intrigue, but it has some excellent satire and a well-constructed plot. It is good for many laughs.

"Diderich the Terrible" should have been titled "Henrik the Able." The central character is Henrik, a servant who dons several disguises and takes all sorts of chances in a mighty attempt to steal away—or rather rescue—a slave girl with whom his master has fallen in love. The actions of Henrik, Diderich (a brave soldier and a henpecked husband), and the suffering slave dealer provide a few good laughs as the complicated plot unfolds.

"The Peasant in Pawn" has become famous for a line which is now a Danish household phrase. In this comedy, which has some serious structural faults, a stupid peasant boy is converted into a count by two needy swindlers. He is instructed not to speak except to say "ask my steward," for any long speech would readily give away the impersonation. The glib steward, of course, is one of the swindlers. After collecting their loot, the confidence men disappear, leaving the unfortunate peasant holding the bag. The wronged citizens become greatly exasperated when, in answer to their questions, the "count" can only repeat his three word slogan. The ending is almost disastrous, but the boy's parents come along in time to save him from a hanging.

Holberg says that old women should act like old women in "The Changed Bridegroom." Old widow Terentia desires for a husband a young officer who would better suit her oldest

daughter. The gaudily dressed and painted woman is eventually shocked back into a common sense attitude when her young officer is supposedly changed into a woman.

The last play is a farcical comedy concerning the journey of two men into the land of the philosophers. The men, on a quest for truth and wisdom, find to their dismay that all the philosophers are crazy. They turn to some doctors for aid, only to discover that these noble gentlemen wish to dissect them for scientific purposes. Their position seems hopeless until several dissatisfied wives help them to escape on the condition that they take them along with them. In this manner they joyously return to the land of normalcy.

Some of the plays are not too effective and have a slight tendency to drag, but this is hardly noticeable. They are all lively, fast, and full of fun. And they all contain a lot of "good theatre." However, the most interesting aspect is the development of character. It is tremendously difficult to work out character in short, one-act plays, but Holberg managed to do a remarkable job. All of the plays are not great—some, in fact, are clumsily constructed—but they all have a spark of genius in them, the genius of characterization. The good writer holds the mirror up to nature and man so that we can sit back and take an objective look at ourselves and our surroundings and so acquire a deeper understanding of the meaning of our existence. Holberg has done something of this in these short comedies; he makes us laugh at people who are pretty real and, when we think about it, pretty much like ourselves. These plays are made of light stuff, but there is enough insight into human nature to make them doubly enjoyable and doubly worthwhile.

JAMES F. O'SULLIVAN

A Study of Six Plays by Ibsen. By Brian W. Downs. Cambridge. 1950. 213 pp. Price \$3.00.

Mr. Downs's second book of Ibsen commentary is indispensable for any reader or producer of Ibsen. The brilliant professor of Scandinavian Studies in the University of Cambridge is a disector, not a diviner, of drama, but he is a philosopher and a scholar who can explain the symbolism of Ibsen's "The Wild Duck" and make it clearer than even it may have been in the mind of Ibsen himself.

The bird that does not appear on the stage is not the heroine of the play. She is rather the symbol of the composite futility of the unimportant, ordinary, docile human beings assembled in this play to flirt with ideals that are beyond their comprehension. Ibsen did not have a high regard for humanity. The planet were better off without us!

The other plays selected by Mr. Downs for

his autopsy are "Love's Comedy," "Brand," "Peer Gynt," "A Doll's House," and "The Master Builder," and he connects them with the other intervening plays by a critical thread.

H. G. L.

Complete Poems: Carl Sandburg. Harcourt, Brace. 1950. 676 pp. Price \$6.00. Reprinted by permission of THE NEW YORK TIMES from the long review by Henry Steele Commager.

There was nothing in the crisis of the Thirties, or of the Forties, that Sandburg had not anticipated in his earlier poems. Indeed, these decades merely pointed up the need for democracy, for brotherhood, for courage, and dramatized the bankruptcy of hatred and inhumanity. In one of the last of "The People, Yes" poems he speaks directly to us, today, and to the zeal for breast-beating and for hatred that seems so popular:

Can you bewilder men by the millions
with the transfusions of your own passions
mixed with lies and half-lies . . .
and then look for peace, quiet, goodwill
between nation and nation, race and race
between class and class?
Who are these so ready
with a hate they are sure of
with a perpetual and considered hate
who are these forehanded ones?

There is, finally, a handful of poems now for the first time published—poems from the war and post-war years. These show no diminution of talents or slackening of spirit. Here is the same Sandburg, passionately championing the people, passionately attacking those who would make a mockery of the dreams and aspirations of man.

There are freedom shouters
There are freedom whisperers.
Both may serve.
Have I, have you, been too silent?
Is there an easy crime of silence?
Is there any easy road to freedom?

Certainly Sandburg has never taken the easy road of silence. Here are tributes to Archibald MacLeish, to the books men die for, to the Norwegian who died under Gestapo torture, to the memory of Lincoln—so alive again. Here is a moving tribute to Roosevelt, one of the greatest of Sandburg's poems:

Can a bell-ring proud in the heart
over a voice yet lingering,
over a face past any forgetting,
over a shadow alive and speaking,
over echoes and lights come keener, come
deeper? . . .

It was not accident that Sandburg should write the great biography of Lincoln, a bi-

ography perfectly suited to Lincoln's genius. For Sandburg is, like Whitman, the Lincoln of our poetry. At a time when we are tempted to betray ourselves, tempted into irrationality, into superficiality, into cynicism, he celebrates what is best in us and recalls us to our heritage and to our humanity.

A Pioneer in Northwest America 1841-1858: The Memoirs of Gustaf Unonius. Vol. I. Translated by Jonas Oscar Backlund and edited by Nils William Olsson. With an Introduction by George M. Stephenson. Published for the Swedish Pioneer Historical Society by The University of Minnesota Press. Minneapolis. 1950. Price \$6.00.

The growing interest in the pioneer Swedes of America has, finally, after almost a century, produced a translation of what must be considered a classic of American frontier life. Writing after he had returned to Sweden, a disappointed crusader among the Swedish immigrants for the Protestant Episcopal Church, Gustaf Unonius recorded faithfully and with singular vividness his experiences in the United States. The original *Memoirs*, of over a thousand pages, first appeared in Uppsala in 1861 and 1862. The author was then fifty-two years old; he lived to be ninety-two. The latter implies the possession of a physical vigor without which his pioneering venture would have been a complete and tragic failure. As it was, he became the first settler at Pine Lake, Wisconsin, and his subsequent "America letters" served as a guide for future emigrants from Sweden.

Unonius was no common immigrant. Unusually well educated in law, medicine, and eventually in theology, with an idealistic mind, he plunged with patience and determination into hardships that today seem incredible and unendurable. Book and pen had to yield, of course, to the axe, the plow, the driving of oxen, and the building of a log cabin. He plodded on with courage, faith, and fortitude. Not always satisfied but seldom complaining, he was realistic in his observations, and pointed out to his countrymen that what the American frontier needed most was manual labor, a strong physique, and a willingness to endure suffering; people of education or high social station were, in the beginning, useless. Impressive is the author's account of his preparations for departure from Sweden, an account which can probably be fully appreciated only by an immigrant who has had similar experiences. And the trip through the Erie Canal, for example, is an odyssey of remarkable detail. Unonius dwells on the expenses of excess baggage and the foolishness of dragging cumbersome and obsolete equipment to America; he describes the fleecing of newly arrived immigrants by unscrupulous

"agents," the tragedy of the lack of sufficient funds, and the dangers of ignorance of the English language. Unonius himself was relatively well-to-do, he had the will to work, and in consequence was moderately successful; but he had met many prospective settlers with neither means nor ability of any kind. His frank statements served as a warning to lazy and thoughtless adventurers.

The *Memoirs* are both scholarly and popular. Keen in observation, the work is just and cautious in judgment, and encouragingly prophetic about America's future. Despite his personal disappointments, he saw clearly, as had his Swedish fellow-citizen Fredrika Bremer, the limitless possibilities of these United States. Yet, not everything was ideal in America: he deplores its quack doctors, the frequency of its exclusively civil marriages, the large number of uneducated preachers of the Gospel, and the overemphasis, he thought, on woman's rights and similar reform measures. Though a reformer himself, he felt that Miss Bremer had gone too far in her feminine endeavors. Much space is devoted to the Indians, in whom he had a genuine interest, and he cannot refrain from debunking the "religious tolerance" of the Pilgrims, who showed little or no tolerance toward others. Often the fauna, flora, and geological formations of a region are described with scientific accuracy; and his arduous physical toil does not prevent him from contemplating and recording a beautiful autumnal color or engaging in a religious or philosophical speculation—all in simple language.

But we cannot help wonder, from the contents of the first volume of his *Memoirs*, why Unonius ever left Sweden. He did not have to leave for economic reasons, and while he was dissatisfied with the social system in his native land and felt that in general there was a better future in America, he finally demonstrated by his return to Sweden that he was uncertain about the whole matter so far as he himself was concerned. Professor Stephenson in his Introduction recalls Unonius's "self-reproach of two major mistakes in his life. The first was that he migrated to America; the second was that he ever left it."

Many minds have contributed to the preparation of this book, and the grandchildren of Gustaf Unonius have supplied documents and photographs. The translator is to be complimented for his work, and the editor's informative Notes are indispensable. The *Memoirs* are, moreover, a fine example of handsome bookmaking, for which the Minnesota University Press deserves special mention. Congratulations are in order all around, and readers will look forward with anticipation to the publication of Volume II.

ADOLPH B. BENSON

Frontier Mother. The Letters of Gro Svendsen. Translated and Edited by Pauline Farseth and Theodore C. Blegen. xix + 153 pp. Price \$2.50.

Grass of the Earth. Immigrant Life in the Dakota Country. By Aagot Raaen. xii + 238 pp. Price \$3.00. Both books published by the Norwegian-American Historical Association, Northfield, Minnesota.

A short time ago the Norwegian-American Historical Association celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of its founding. It has in this comparatively brief period published thirty-three volumes, dealing with various phases of Norwegian-American life. On this occasion, Dr. Franklin D. Scott, Professor of History at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, who was the principal speaker, made the statement that the Norwegian-American Historical Association had in twenty-five years attained a position of recognized leadership in its field, and that its publications formed a remarkable body of constructive scholarship and contained books of high caliber, rich variety, and a careful planning far beyond the ordinary.

This is indeed well-deserved praise, and the two new books under consideration here conform to the high standard set by the Association. If anybody wants to familiarize himself with the conditions under which the early Norwegian immigrants came to America and took up life here (the first group arrived in 1825), he can do no better than study *Frontier Mother* and *Grass of the Earth*.

For most immigrants it was a hard struggle to get ahead. Gro Svendsen, the Frontier Mother, came to America with her young husband in 1862, and being clever with her pen she described in a long series of letters to her parents in Hallingdal, Norway, her trip across the ocean and her various experiences in the new country. They settled near Estherville, Iowa, where Gro led the life of a typical wife of a farmer and became the mother of ten children. She was interested in education, was fond of books and taught school for a while. In 1864 Gro's husband, Ole Svendsen, was summoned for military duty and saw service with General Sherman. He also took part in the great parade in Washington when the war was over. After Gro's death in 1878, Ole Svendsen moved to North Dakota where he became a prosperous farmer.

The Reverend Ole Nilsen, a brother of Gro, wrote a short novel about his sister, entitled "Rose of the Valley: From the World of Reality on Both Sides of the Sea." The book was printed by the Augsburg Publishing House of Minneapolis.

Also in *Grass of the Earth* do we meet with a wife of will-power and strong character. The Raaen family had settled near Hatton, North Dakota, in the seventies, and they helped to organize the Norwegian congregation, and a few years later the school. At home, they made *flatbrød*, soap, yarn, and

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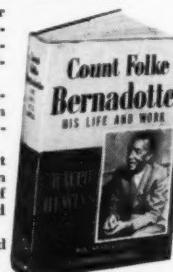
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wove cloth for suits and dresses, and the neighbors helped one another the best way they knew how. The family would have gotten along well if it had not been for the father's inclination to drink. This disrupted the family's economy, compelled a hard struggle for existence, and even made Mrs. Raaen and some other women join hands and go to physical attack on the saloons in town. For many years they had such trouble to get rid of their indebtedness that they promised themselves that never should they go in debt again. Once, when far was away and a child was sick, there was no money to pay for a doctor.

The most interesting part of *Grass of the Earth* is perhaps the story of how Aagot, the oldest child in the Raaen family, acquired a higher education. Nothing could stop her until she had secured a university degree. She was a teacher for many years. Kjersti was a gifted nurse, and also Tosten became a teacher.

As Theodore C. Blegen says in his introduction to *Frontier Mother*: "Here is primary source material not only for the social historian, but also for the sociologist who likes to speculate on the changing patterns of American life."

A. N. Rygg

Americans from Norway. By Leola Nelson Bergmann. Lippincott. 1950. 324 pp. Price \$3.50.

Today there are about two and a half million persons in the United States with Norwegian antecedents. The story of their, or their forebears', coming here and their contributions to life in America is indeed one of epic proportions; it is being told in its entirety in the present work by Leola Nelson Bergmann, which appears as the latest volume in the Peoples of America Series published by Lippincott under the editorship of Louis Adamic.

Mrs. Bergmann has successfully hurdled the danger of making her book a mass of names, facts, and figures; that it makes not only interesting, but often lively reading is no mean accomplishment. The account of the discoveries of the early Norsemen forms, as it were, the overture to the story of the large-scale migration of modern times. The considerable number of Norwegians in the Dutch colony of Nieuw Amsterdam receive recognition in another introductory chapter, after which the main story opens with the voyage of the "Restaurerionen" in 1825 and the exploits of Cleng Peerson and Ole Rynning. Between 1825 and 1925 over a million emigrants left Norway for the New World. The successive waves of immigration, destined first for Illinois, then Wisconsin, Minnesota, and finally the Dakotas and even farther West, are described fully in a number of concise and informative chapters.

The second half of the book is devoted to the description and history of the Norwegian

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settlements in the larger cities, New York, Chicago, Minneapolis, and those on the West coast, and also to the contributions of Norwegians in the many different fields of endeavor—science, medicine, teaching, politics, business, and journalism. The pervasive influence of the Lutheran church is evident throughout the story of the Norwegian pioneers, but Mrs. Bergmann frequently draws our attention to the fact that a great number of Norwegian-Americans have been absorbed into the Methodist, Baptist, Quaker, and Mormon persuasions.

It would seem that some sections, particularly the Eastern seaboard, have received a far too sketchy treatment in the book, while some of the chapters on outstanding individuals are too short to do justice to the achievements of Norwegian-Americans in these fields. It is probably quite unfair to single out names that should have been mentioned, but aren't, in a compendium of this type, but a few serious omissions should perhaps be pointed out. That the name of Hanna Astrup Larsen and her contribution to Scandinavian-American letters as editor of THE AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN REVIEW are not even touched upon is a definite flaw. Similarly, the names of Earl Sande and Pete Sanstol are so well known in the field of sports that they should have been assured of inclusion. Neither would it have been amiss to have mentioned that Thomas Heggen, author of the literary and dramatic success "Mister Roberts," was of Norwegian descent. In addition one cannot help feeling that illustrations, such as of the emigrant ships, early pioneer churches, and portraits of outstanding individuals, would have added considerably to the attraction of the book.

It is quite evident from the record that among the immigrants and their descendants only a modest number has arisen to the highest positions in industry and finance, although many have made their mark in science and scholarship; Norwegian-American names abound in the ranks of trained specialists and in Middle Western politics and civil service, but the great majority of American Norsemen have been, and still are, farmers, artisans, tradespeople, sailors, and small business men. "It is . . . a story mainly of people who plowed the earth, seined fish, felled trees, sailed boats, built houses and barns, repaired machinery. Few were those who preached, taught, and wrote. Yet they, too, were important because through them we have come to know how the rest lived and thought."

The wealth of source material listed in the appendix is compelling evidence that many have indeed set down on paper fragments of the manifold story of Americans from Norway; by now presenting the whole story, and presenting it well, Mrs. Bergmann has performed a distinct service not only to her own nationality group, but also to the larger society of which it is a part.

ERIK J. FRIIS

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Lars and Lisa in Sweden. Written and illustrated by Alida Vreeland. *Aladdin Books.* 1950. 122 pp. Price \$2.00.

Lars and Lisa in Sweden is a delightful story of a Swedish family and the adventures of their two children, Lars and Lisa. Besides giving the reader a pleasant glimpse of everyday life in Sweden, there are also colorful accounts of many distinctive customs, such as the celebration of St. Walpurgis' Night which heralds the coming of spring; the gay Midsummer's Eve festival; and the beautiful pageantry of the performance of St. Lucia's legend in December.

The story is simply but charmingly written, and the author has created a happy atmosphere. The Ekstrom family has a good time together and enjoys the things they do, whether it be making preparations for Christmas or buying paints for Lars with the pennies he has laboriously saved in his teapot. His American friend, Bob, whom he meets while vacationing in Visby, helps him with his pictures, and it is a wonderful day for Lars when Father promises to let him take a trip to America next year to visit his new friend.

Miss Vreeland's illustrations are as jolly as her story. This is a book which should find a welcome place on many children's bookshelves.

RUTH T. LEE

BOOK NOTES

Heartbreak, by John A. Hofstead (Wilkinson Publishing Co., Dallas, 1950, Price \$2.00) is the voice of Texas, vibrant, buoyant, and clear, but verse for all America

"America, the beautiful,
 America, the free,
 America, the miracle
 To all humanity!"

Marshall W. S. Swan has written a superb account of the books purchased by Longfellow for Harvard Library on his visit to Scandinavia with his first wife in 1835. High in humor is the story of Arfwedson's inspection of Harvard. (*Harvard Library Bulletin*, Autumn 1950, pp. 359-373).

In "Oh Dakota Land, Sweet Dakota Land," T. G. Mauritz has recorded the experiences of a bold and hectic life (Thor's Book and Publishing Service, Los Angeles).

How fine bookmaking, typography, binding and the use of wood-cuts may be utilized by industrial concerns is illustrated by *Beauvais i hundrede Aar*. This book is published by the well-known Danish conserving firm Beauvais to mark the centenary of its founding. The Danish text is by Ivar Egebjerg.

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Ingrid Semmingsen's *Veien mot vest* will no doubt become the standard work in the Norwegian language on Norwegian emigration to America. The second volume, which was published by Aschehoug last year, carries the story down to 1915. Included are also two chapters on Norwegian settlements in Australia and Africa. Numerous drawings and photographs enhance greatly the value of this stout and comprehensive volume.

The University of Oklahoma Press has published an American edition of *Grieg: A Symposium*. (Price \$3.00) Gerald Abraham, the editor, has brought together a number of essays by various authors on Grieg the Man, his Orchestral and Chamber Music, his Concertos and Songs, his Choral Music, as well as his personality and style. The chapters add up to a well-rounded picture of Grieg and his musical productions. Gerald Abraham is a well-known London music critic who has edited similar volumes on Tchaikovsky, Schubert, and Sibelius.

The late Theodor Haecker's important essay on *Kierkegaard—The Cripple* is now available in an American edition. It has been translated by C. Van O. Bruyn and has an introduction by A. Dru. The publisher is The Philosophical Library. This authoritative study is perhaps the first to take into account that the great Danish philosopher had a deformed back. On this basis Haecker discusses Kierkegaard's physical and mental constitution and their influence on his thought.

The Story of Hans Andersen (Price \$2.00, Ill.) appears as the latest in the Story Biography Series published in the United States by Henry Schuman. Told in story form for youngsters of 10-15 this biography adheres faithfully to the facts while at the same time making delightful reading for young folks. The author, Esther Meynell of Surrey, England, has previously written many adult books, among them the biography *Young Lincoln*.

Svalbard—A Norwegian Outpost is a beautifully illustrated quarto volume with English text about this group of Arctic islands which in English still retains its old Dutch name of Spitzbergen. The drawings and designs are by Reidar J. Berle and the English translation of the text by Leif J. Wilhelmsen, Director of the University of Bergen. Professor Anatol Heintz, Director of the Oslo Palaeontological Museum, has written the preface, while Ole Friile Backer served up to his death as Picture Editor. The book is published by J. W. Eides Forlag, Bergen. (Price \$4.75)

A very useful bibliography, *U. S. A. in Norwegian Literature*, has been published by Gyldendal in Oslo. Compiled by Reidar Øksnevad, the book lists all serious books and magazine articles which deal with the United States or any aspect of American life and culture.

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